A
FIERY PILLAR
OF
HEAVENLY TRUTH:
SHEWING
The Way to a Blessed Life.

Composed by way of Catechisme, for the *Preservation* of GOD's People from the spreading evils and pernicious Inchantments of *Popisme*, and other Errors; for the *Direction* of every mans Condition, for the *Consolation* of afflicted people, and for the direction of all sorts of people to life Eternall.

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2 Cor. 10. 4, 5. *The weapons of our warfare are not carnall, but mighty through God, to the pulling downe of strong holds, &c.*

1 Cor. 1. 27. *God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise, &c.*

Omnia dicta tanti existimantur, quantus est ille qui dixit; & qui legunt non tam considerant quid legant, quam cujus legant, &c. *Salvian contra Avarit.*

Sufficiunt nobis hac in parte sanctorum sensus & judicia, &c. *Salv. cont. Avar.*

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Mary Dalmer
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A FIERY PILLAR OF HEAVENLY TRUTH: SHEWING The Way to a Bleſſed Life.

CHAP. I.

Queſtion,

WHat *is the moſt needfull and comfortable thing for every man to know?*

Anſ. To know himſelfe to be the child of God, *Luk.* 10.42. *John* 17. 3. *Phil.* 3.8. 2 *Cor.*13. 5.

Q. *Why is this knowledge the moſt needfull and moſt comfortable?*

A. Becauſe God doth chiefly require it, and our happineſſe, dignity, peace and ſafety doth principally conſiſt in it, *Hoſ.*6. 6. *Jer.*9.23,24. 2 *Pet.*1.2,3,4.

Q. *How may a man attaine this knowledge?*

A. By the preaching of the Word, 1 *Pet.*1.23. *Acts* 26.15,16,17,18.

Q. *How doth the preaching of the Word work this knowledge in us?*

A. By two things.

1 By bringing us to a cleer ſight and

lively feeling of our miſery by ſin, *Rom.* 7.7,9. *Acts* 2.37.

2. By bringing us to the knowledge of our redemption out of that eſtate by Chriſt, *Luke* 3.3. *Luke* 24.47.

Q. *Wherein doth our wretchedneſſe conſiſt?*

A. In two things: Firſt, in the loſſe of happineſſe, *Gen.* 3.17,23. Secondly, in the gaine of miſery, *Pſal.* 14.3.

Qu. *Wherein ſtood that happineſſe, which by him we have now loſt?*

A. In being like God in holineſſe and true righteouſneſſe without corruption, *Gen.* 1.27. and in being conformable to the Law of God in ſound obedience without imperfection, *Eccleſ.* 7.29.

Qu. *What is it that maketh our eſtate now ſo miſerable?*

A. Sin, and the curſe due to ſin, *Jam.* 1. 14,15. *Gal.* 3.10. *Pſal.* 38.3,4.

Qu. *Wherein ſtandeth our ſinfulneſſe?*

A. In two things: Firſt, in that we are guilty of *Adams* ſin, becauſe we were in his loyns, *Rom.* 5.13. Secondly, in that all the powers of our ſouls, and members of our bodies, are now by nature corrupted, *Eph.* 2.1. *Rom.* 6.19. *Tit.* 2.15,16. *Jam.* 3.15.

Qu. *How doth this ſinfulneſſe make us miſerable?*

A. Seven wayes. 1 In

1. In *abolishing* Gods image, *Gen.*3.7. *Gen.*5.5.

2 In *filling* our whole man with corruption, *Psal.*5.

3 In *making* us vassals unto sin and Satan, *Rom.*7.14. *Eph.*2.3. 2 *Tim.*2.26.

4 In *disabling* us to understand the will and observe the Commandements of the Lord, *Joh.*1.5. *Eph.*4.18,19.

5 In *causing* us to lose our right unto, and Soveraigney over the creatures, *Rom.* 8.20,21,22. *Tit.*1.15.

6 In making our persons and actions *unacceptable* unto God, *Pro.*15.8,9. *Joh.*9.31

7 In *casting* us out of Gods favour, and in making us liable unto death eternall, *Isa.*59.1,2,3. *Jer.*5.25. *Mat.*25.41.

Q. *Cannot man, being in this estate, turn himself unto God?*

A. No: For,

1 He is altogether *indisposed* unto any good, 2 *Cor.*3,5. *Eph.*2.1. *Mat.*7.17,18.

2 He is strongly bent and *inclined* unto what is evill, *Jer.*17.9. *Rō.*8.7. *Act.*7.51.

3 He is a very *enemy* against God, *Col.* 1.21. *Rom.*8.7.

4 He hath a *base estimation* of the means appointed to convert him, 1 *Cor.*1.23. *Job* 21.14,15. *Act.*17.18. *Psal.*58.5. *Mat.*22.5,6.

5 The deceitfull proffers of ſin are very *pleaſing* to him, *Pro.9.17. Pro.10.23.*

6 The *wayes* of God, and they who walk in them ſeem *baſe*, and of no account with him, *Job.7.48. Iſa.8.18. 1 Cor. 4.13. Mal.3.13,14,15.*

Q. *Wherein ſtandeth the curſedneſſe of man?*

A. In being ſubject to all the plagues of this life, and of the life to come, *Rom.6.23.*

Q. *What are the plagues whereunto he is ſubject here in this life?*

A. To grievous changes in his eſtate, loathſome diſeaſes in his body, vile luſts and raigning corruptions in his ſoule, *Levit,26.15,16,17. Deut. 28.16,17. Rom. 1.25,26,27,28,29.*

Q. *What are the plagues he is ſubject to in the life to come.*

A. They are endleſſe, eaſleſſe and remedileſſe torments, *Mark 9.45,46.*

Q. *What ought the conſideration of this ſinfull and curſed eſtate work in us?*

A. Deep and ſerious humiliation, with an unceſſant care to get forth of the ſame, *Rom.7.24. Job 42.6. Acts 2.37.*

Chap. II.

Queſtion.

HAving ſhewed me mans miſery by ſin, tell me now in what order doth God bring man

out

out of that eſtate, unto glory in Heaven?

A. God proceedeth in the work of mans ſalvation by ſix ſteps.

Q. *What are they?*

A. 1. Election. 2. Redemption. 3. Vocation. 4. Juſtification. 5. Sanctification. 6. Glorification.

Q. *What is Election?*

A. It is the eternall Decree of God, whereby he freely and infallibly appointed, for the glory of his owne Name, to bring ſome men to Everlaſting Life through Chriſt, *Eph.* 1.4,5,6.

Q. *Woat did move God to elect ſome men unto life?*

A. Neither fore-ſeen faith, works, freedome of will, nobleneſſe of birth, nor merit of Chriſt, but onely the good pleaſure of God, *Deut.* 7.7,8. 2 *Tim.* 1.9. *Eph.* 1.5, 11. *Rom.* 9.11,12,13. *John* 1.13.

Q. *By what reaſons can you further make it manifeſt, that God of his owne good pleaſure doth chooſe men unto life eternall?*

A. Chiefly by theſe ſix:

1 Becauſe God is a *free Agent*, his Will is independent, *Pſal.* 135.4,5,6. *Rom.* 9.21.

2 Becauſe GOD could *fore-ſee* no good thing in us, but what himſelf had determinated to work, 1 *Cor.* 4.7. *Phil.* 2.13. 1 *King.* 8.57,58.

3 Because our Redemption, Vocation, Justification and Sanctification are altogether *free*, *John* 3.16. *Gal.* 1.15. 2 *Tim.* 1.9. *Rom.* 8.30,31,32. 1 *Cor.* 1.30.

4 Because such as have the *best* naturall endowments, are most commonly *left*, and they who have *least*, are most frequently *elected*, 1 *Cor.* 2.26,27,28. *Mat.* 11.25,26.

5 Because the greatest *sinners* are many times *converted*, when others not so notoriously evill continue unregenerate, *Mat.* 21.28,29,30,31,32. 1 *Tim.* 1.15. 2 *Chr.* 33. 12,13.

6 Because man shall have nothing whereof to glory, but ascribe the praise of the whole work of his salvation unto God, 1 *Cor.* 1.28,29,30,31.

Q. *What are the properties of Election?*

A. They are these three.

1 Election is *eternall*, *Eph.* 1.4.

2 *Unchangeable*, 2 *Tim.* 2.19. *Rom.* 8.38, 39. *Rom.* 11.2.29. *John* 10.28,29.

3 *Free* & independent, *Rom.* 9.18. *Is.* 60.21

Q. *What are the signes of Election?*

A. First, A *lively feeling* of our effectuall vocation, *Rom.* 8.30. 1 *Pet.* 2.9. 2 *Th.* 2.13,14.

2 *Newnesse* and purity of heart and life, 2 *Tim.* 2.19,20,21. *Job.* 3.3. 1 *Joh.* 3.2,3.

3 An *entire love* to Gods Word and peo-

ple, 1 *Joh.* 4. 16, 17. 1 *Joh.* 3. 13, 14. *Joh.* 8. 47.

4 A *deadly hatred* from the world, for the unfained love we bear to Christ, *Joh.* 15. 19

5 The *internal testimony* of Gods spirit, witnessing to our *consciences* that we are the *children of God*, *Rom.* 8. 16. 1 *Joh.* 5. 6, 7, 8. 1 *Joh.* 4. 13.

6 A *sanctified peace* of conscience, *Rō.* 5. 1, 2

7 A *holy contentednesse*, and heavenly walking with God at all times, & in all estates, *Phil.* 4. 11, 12. 1 *Pet.* 1. 17. *Acts* 24. 16.

8 An *earnest looking* for, and longing after the comming of Christ Jesus to judgement, 2 *Pet.* 3. 12, 13, 14. 2 *Tim.* 4. 8. *Rev.* 22. 20. He that findeth all, or any one of these signes truly wrought in him, may infallibly assure himselfe of his Election.

Q. *Hath not God in his secret Decree rejected some, as well as Elected others?*

A. Yes: *Rev.* 13. 8. *Prov.* 16. 4. *Isa.* 41. 9. *Mal.* 1. 3. *Rom.* 9. 18. *Rom.* 11. 7. 1 *Thes.* 5. 9. 2 *Tim.* 2. 10. *Jude* v. 4.

Q. *What is Reprobation?*

A. It is the eternall and unchangeable decree of God, not to bestow on some men the grace of Election, *Rom.* 9. 11, 12, 13.

Q. *What is the moving cause hereof?*

A. The good pleasure of God, *Mat.* 11. 25, 26.

Q. *What is the finall cause hereof?*

A. That Gods absolute power over the Creature might be declared, and his mercy to the Elect commended, *Rom.*2.17.22.

Q. *Doe you not hereby make God the Author of sin, and unjust in condemning man for sin?*

A. No: for,

1 Reprobation goeth before sin, not as a *cause*, but as an *Antecedent*; as the absence of the Sun is an Antecedent, but not a cause of the freezing of the water.

2 God by the decree of Reprobation doth not infuse any evill into man, nor compell man to doe any evill, *James* 1.13 14. but determineth,

First, not to *confer* upon man, and confirm in him that grace which should make him stand, *Deut.*29.4. *Psal.*81.13.

Secondly, to *permit* man of his own accord, to commit sin, *Psal.*81.12. *Eph.*4.19.

Thirdly, to *limit* him how farre he shall goe in such a sin, 2 *Kings* 19.28.

Fourthly, he ordaineth, beyond the nature of sin, and the purpose of the sinner, to *order* and turne it to a good end, even the manifestation of his owne glory, in the execution of his justice upon the impenitents, and in shewing mercy to his chosen, *Rom.*9.22,23.

3 Re-

3 Reprobation being an act of Gods absolute *power*, hath no other cause but Gods good *pleasure*, *Rom.* 9. 21. but damnation being act of Gods *justice*, hath *sin* to be the meritorious cause thereof, *Hosea* 13.9. *Ezek.* 18.30.

4 The fall of man in regard of the *liberty* of mans will, was *avoydable*, but in regard of the *event* of the action, it was *inevitable*; the Lord having decreed not to stir up the will of man to persist in righteousnes, and to resist Satans temptation, he voluntarily inclined to what was forbidden, *Gen.* 3.6.

5 Man is not condemned because he *cannot* but sin, in regard of Gods decree of *reprobation*, but because he *will* doe no other then sin, in regard of his owne *inclination*, *Hosea* 13.9. *Psal.* 81.10,11,12. *Mat.* 23.37. *Ezek.* 18.31,32.

6 Though unregenerate man doth nothing but what God hath in his secret decree appointed, yet he sinneth, because what he doth is in obedience to his own *will*, and not to Gods *Commandement*, *Isa.* 10.5,6,7. *Acts* 4.27,28.

7 Whom God hath not ordained to *save*, them he hath appointed to leave to themselves, to continue in blindnesse and hardnesse of heart, till the measure of their

sin be filled up, 1 *Pet.* 2.8 *Isa.* 6.9. 2 *Cor.* 4.3,4

Q. *What are the signes of Reprobation?*

A. An infallible signe can very hardly be given, but signes very probably there be eight.

1 When God doth either *not bestow* upon men, or else doth take from them the faithfull Ministery of the Word the ordinary meanes of their salvation, *Mat.* 10.5. *Mat.* 23.37,38,39. *Acts* 13.46.

2 When God doth *not incline* the heart to be obedient to the outward meanes which he affordeth, 1 *Sam.* 2.25. *Mat.* 11.21, 22,23. 2 *Cor.* 25.16.

3 When mens hearts are *hardned* by the Ministry of the Word, and other meanes of life, *Isa.* 6,9,10. 2 *Cor.* 2.15,16. 1 *Pet.* 2.7, 8. *Job.* 13.2.

4 When God doth send upon men the *Spirit of slumber*, to make them secure and unsensible of the danger of their naturall estate and present condition, *Rom.* 11.8. *Isa.* 19.14.

5 When God doth *give men up* to a *reprobate mind*, disabling them to judge aright between things spiritually good and evil, *Rom.* 1,28. 2 *Pet.* 2.12. 2 *Cor.* 4.3.

6 When God doth *give men up* to Satan, to deceivers, or to strong delusions,

to

to be seduced, 2 *Cor.*4.4. 2 *Thes.*2.9,10,11, 12, *Mic.*2.11. 1 *King.*22.20,21,22,23.

7 When men receive not the truth with an unfained *love* to the truth, 2 *Th.*2.10.12.

8 When men turne Gods *Grace into wantonnesse*, presuming to continue sinfull, because God is long-suffering and mercifull, *Rom.*2.4,5. *Jude Epist.*ver.4.

Q. *Doth not this Doctrine of Election and Reprobation, make men secure and careless?*

A. No: for as God hath appointed men to *glory*, so he hath appointed them to *sanctification*; and to the use of al holy means to attain that end, 2 *Th.*2.13,14. *Eph.*1.4. 2 *Pet.*1.10.

Q. *Can you shew me yet more clearly how the three persons in the God-head doe proceed in accomplishing the work of mans salvation?*

A. Yes:

1 No man commeth to the *Son*, but from the *Father* by *Election*, *John* 6.37,65. *Joh.*17.2,6,7.

2 No man commeth to the Father from the bondage of sinne and Satan, but by the Son, through the work of *Redemption* and *Mediation*, *Eph.*1.9,10. *Joh.*14.6.

3 No man is united to the Son, but by the holy Ghost, working faith and *sanctification* in them whom the Father did chuse and

and the Son redeem, 2 *Thes.* 2.13. 1 *Pet.* 1.2,3

4 The whole work of mans ſalvation, from the Father, by the *inchoation* or beginning of the *Decree*: in the *Son*, by the *diſpenſation* of the meanes: *By* the holy Ghoſt, for the *Conſummation* of the meanes *unto faith*, as the inſtrument to apply them, and *unto obedience* & true holines, as the fruit of faith and way to Heaven, 1 *Pet.* 1.2,3,4.

Q. *What rules can you give me for the better underſtanding of this deep Myſtery of Election and Reprobation?*

A. The rules requiſite to the right unſtanding hereof, are of five ſorts.

Q. *What doth the firſt ſort of theſe rules reſpect?*

A. The foreknowledge of God.

Q. *What are the Rules which reſpect Gods foreknowledge?*

A. They are ſeven.

1 That Gods foreknowledge is *independent*, and not occaſioned by the thing foreſeen, becauſe the foreknower ſtampeth his impreſſion in the things foreknowne, but the things foreknowne make no impreſſion in the foreknower.

2 God *foreſeeth no good* thing in the creatures, nor any inclination unto goodneſſe; but what himſelf from all eternity had ordained to work in them, both for eſſence and inclination.

3 Things

3 Things future, are therefore *future* and to come, becauſe God did foreknow and *fore-ordaine* them; his knowledge dependeth not on them, but their comming to paſſe dependeth upon his decree.

4 Gods foreknowledge is not the *cauſe* of that which God hath decreed to permit (*to wit*, ſin) but of that onely which God hath decreed to *work*, that is, the creatures, their qualities, motions and actions.

5 Gods fore-knowledge is not *ſpeculative*, but practicall, not declaring things to come, as he ſeeth them in their cauſes: but effecting whatſoever he will have done, be it good or evill either by a powerfull working, or by a voluntary permiſſion and wiſe ordering of it, to the end whereto he did appoint it.

6 Whatſoever God *foreknowes*, that he willeth, becauſe nothing can come to paſſe wch he willeth not; the Lord by himſelf, or by others, doing whatſoever is good, but ſuffering others to doe that which is evil.

7 Gods foreknowledge of his elect is not a *naked* knowledge, but a knowledge joyned with a *loving affection*, and benevolous purpoſe in God to appoint and bring them to eternall life, out of his owne ſingular love.

Q. What

Q. *What doth the second sort of rules respect?*

A. The will of God.

Q. *What are the Rules that respect the will of God?*

A. They are nine.

1 You must not conceive any thing to be *before* the will, counsell, purpose and decree of God; because these be eternall, and no man may look beyond eternity for a reason of any thing.

2 God primarily willeth *himselfe* as the chief good. Secondarily, the *Creatures*, as they doe more or lesse beare his Image. Thirdly, he willeth *sinne*, not immediately or simply for it self, for so he hateth the very being of it; but he willeth the permission and disposition of sin, as it may be reduced by his goodnesse and wisdome, to his own glory, and the good of the creature.

Aug. in Enchirid. c. 11. Greg. Mor. lib. 18. c. 17.

3 Whatsoever God doth will in his secret will that he bringeth to passe: because he effecteth it in himself by a secret and unchanchangeable decree; and out of himself by two uncontrollable means, the dispensation of his Son, and consummation of his spirit.

4. We must not confound the secret with

with the revealed will of God; the decree of Predestination, with the precepts of faith and repentance.

5 Gods revealed *Will* sheweth what ought to be performed by us, not that God hath in his secret *will* decreed we either can, or shall be enabled to performe the same.

6 Gods *will* is the reason why two men equally miserable, are made to differ one from another, and not the foresight of our wils; receiving or rejecting grace proposed

7 The *will* of God is most free, and most simple, and therefore there are neither two, nor more, nor contrary wils of God, but the *Will* of God is most simply one.

8 There are divers distinctions of the *will* of God, but such as are rather nominall then reall.

9 The things which are done against the revealed will of God, or the will of his precept, are not done without, or beside his secret will, which is properly the will of God; nothing being done, *God* willing, or unwilling.

Q. *What doth the third sort of Rules respect?*

A. The decree of God.

Q. *What are the Rules respecting Gods Decree?*

A. They are fourteen.

1 The

1 The Decree of God is moſt wiſe, moſt free, abſolute, inconditionall, eternall; going before all ſecond cauſes.

2 Though all things come to paſſe neceſſarily, according to the Decree of God, yet is his Decree the cauſe of no ſin, the Decree inferring no neceſſity of *conſtraint*, but of *immutability*.

3 The Decree of God takes away neither liberty from the reaſonable creatures, or contingency from ſecond cauſes.

4 Gods Decree of Election, or Reprobation, muſt not be grounded upon any thing in man, but altogether upon the free-will and good pleaſure of God.

5 We muſt carefully put a difference between the *Decree* of Election and Reprobation and the *execution*; becauſe the decree is *eternall* and before ſin; the execution of the decree is *temporall* and after ſin, the decree reſpecteth man in generall, as he is a creature capable either of glory or ignominy, the executiõ looketh on mã as he is in ſin.

6 We muſt take heed that we neither confound the Decree with the execution of the Decree, nor the *meanes* of ſalvation or damnation, with the *cauſes* of Election or Reprobation: You may not make Chriſt and Faith the cauſes of Election,

 becauſe

becauſe they be meanes of ſalvation; you muſt not take incredulity and ſin to be the cauſe of reprobation; becauſe ſin doth not goe before, but follow after Reprobation.

7 We muſt diſtinguiſh between the Decree of *non-Election*, or Reprobation, and the decree of *deſtination* unto puniſhment, or preparation to puniſhment, which is uſually called Predamnation; becauſe the former dependeth ſolely upon the good *pleaſure* of God, the other is an act of Gods *juſtice*; the one floweth from God, as he is a God of *abſolute power*, the other floweth from God, as he is a God of *Juſtice*: the one reſpecteth man, as he is a reaſonable creature, *mutable*, the other as he is *fallen* into ſin.

8 We muſt carefully apply a right *object* to each ſeverall *act*, which we conceive to be in Gods decree: Thus we muſt apply *Eternall Election* & Reprobation to the attribute of *power*, dominion & good pleaſure of God. We muſt apply actuall & *temporall Election*, which reſpecteth man in ſin to the attribute of *mercy* in God: the *deſtination* of men not elected unto puniſhment muſt be referred to the attribute of *Juſtice*.

9 The proper object of eternall Election and Reprobation, or preterition, is

the

the *reasonable* creature, capable of glory or ignominy; as we may see in the election and pretenition of Angels, who were not in the masse of sin, and in the election of Christ, as man, in whom there was no sin.

10 The decree of Election and Reprobation is an immanent act in God alone, as in the *Subject*: from God alone, as from the *cause*; but damnation is neither *originally* from God, nor *subjectively* in God, but is a *transient effect* of his Justice.

11 Mans *salvation* in the order of Gods decree and Counsell goeth before the *meanes*, because every wise Agent resolveth first of the end and then of the means.

12 As God ordaineth the *end*, so also he appointeth most apt, convenient and powerfull meanes to accomplish that end; his decree of Election and Reprobation, being as immutable as himself.

13 God being a most wise Agent, propoundeth unto himself the manifestation of his owne glory, as a most certaine and infallible end, appointing and making all things to serve thereunto.

14 There neither is, nor can be any impulsive cause of the Decree of God, besides the free will & good pleasure of God.

Q. *What doth the fourth sort of Rules respect?*

A. That

A. That manner of the three persons working in the work of mans salvation.

Q. *What are the Rules respecting the working of the three Persons?*

A. They are these:

1 Election being an orignall work, is attributed to the first Person, and the Sons dispensation is according to the Fathers Election.

2 The Father made *choice* of certaine people unto eternall life, as his inheritance; the Son *purchased* what the Father had chosen; and the holy Ghost working from the Father and the Son, doth *take possession*, and expelleth sin and Satan.

3 Man is elected in Christ, as the head of the *Elect*, but not at the head or foundation of the Fathers *Election*: For so the Father should begin from the Son, who alone worketh from himselfe by the Son.

4 Christ is the Elect of the Father, therefore not the head of the Fathers Election; the *dilection* of the Father, causeth the *donation* of the Son.

5 Christ is chosen, 1 as *Head*, not to his Father, but over his Members, and so he is the first of the Elect in order, and we are chosen in him. 2 He is chosen as a *Fountain* of grace, not to his Father, but from

from his Father to us, as a Mediator and means for our good and ſo he becommeth our ſervant.

Q. *What doth the fift ſort of Rules concerne?*

A. Sin.

Q. *What are the Rules which in this behalfe reſpect ſin?*

A. They are theſe:

I We muſt diſtinguiſh between a thing brought to paſſe as an *effect*, flowing from ſomething as the cauſe thereof, (as the freezing of the water followeth the coldneſſe of the *Aire*, as an effect of it) and between that which is a *conſequent*, comming after ſomething as it is an antecedent; as the freezing of the water is a conſequent, bnt not an effect of the abſence of the *Sun*. So ſin is a *conſequent* of reprobation, not an effect; becauſe God by not electing man, doth not infuſe any evill into man, nor take away any good thing from man, which he had, but doth thereby decree not to confirme in him that good which ſhould make him ſtand.

II. The *cauſality* of the action, with the effectuall concurrence, and immediate influence into the ſame, as alſo the direction and determination of it, muſt be referred unto God: but the *ſin*, diſorder or defici-

ency

ency of the action, must be referred unto man, as the author; and rest in man, as in the Subject.

III. The action, as it proceedeth from an *evill will*, and looketh to an *evill end*, so it commeth from man, but as it is ordered by God to a *good end*, so it commeth from him.

IV. Look on the *decree* of God, and you shall see, that that is an immanent act *residing* in God, working nothing, *infusing* no corruption into the creature, not at all *inforcing* the creature to any evill, but *leaving* the creature to himself, the creature doth of its own accord, decline from the Rule of righteousnes prescribed, from the estate of holines, in which it was created: God left man in a good estate, made him the free beginner of his owne work.

V. Look on Gods *Providence*, and there you shall see Gods efficiency *in* & *about*, but not of sin. You shal see his efficiency in sin.

1 In *fore-knowing* and fore-appointing it, *Gen.* 50. 19. for whatsoever is, is either *against* the will of God, and then he cannot be *omnipotent*; or besides the will of God, and then he cannot be *omniprovident*, omnidisponent; or else it must be with the will of God, for who hath resisted his will?

will? *Rom.*9.19. Sin is against the Rule of Righteousnesse, which God hath prescribed, but not against the secret Will of God, which cannot be resisted.

2 Here you shall see the Efficiency of God, in sustaining the nature of the sinner for in him we live, move, and have our being, *Acts* 17.28.

2 In the *permission* of the sin, *Act.*14.16.

4 In the *desertion* of the sinner, *Isa.*5.5,6

5 In the *tradition* and delivering up of sinners to Satan and vile affection, as an act of justice, a punishment for their former impieties, *Rom.*1.24.

6 In the limitation of them in their profane enterprizes, *Isa.*8.10.

7 In giving leave to wicked Instruments to incite and stir up others to evill; 1 *King.*22.22.

VI. Look on *sin*, and you shall see it is from evill *defectively*: sin hath properly no efficient, but a deficient cause: For sinne is not properly in action, but a defect and obliquity, or errour in the action: sin hath no positive being, but is a privation evilly affecting the subject wherein it is: Sin is from a good cause *permissively*, dispositively: Sinne is in that which is good

A malo defectivè.

A bono permissivè

In bono subiectivè *Ad bonum reductivè* good *Subjectively*, the action is good, the obliquity of the action is evill: Sin to good *Reductively*: God the chiefest good, would never have permitted sinne, had he not known how to make a good use thereof.

VII. The work of God about sin is considerable in the inchoation, progresse and consummation of sin. In the *Inchoation* by *prohibition* and permission: by *prohibition*, if there had been no prohibition, there had been no sin, where is no law, is no sin: by *permission*, if God would not have permitted it, it could not have been.

In the *progresse* of sin, Gods work is seen in the *direction* and imitation of it, for the time when, continuance how long, and measure how much.

In the end or *consummation* of sin, the work of God is seen, in shewing his mercy in forgiving some, and his justice in punishing others.

Chap. III.

Question.

What is the second step by which God proceedeth in the work of mans salvation?

A. Redemption, *Eph.* 1.7.

Q. What are we to consider concerning mans Redemption?

A. Six things.

1 Who wrought it.
2 Wherein it consisteth.
3 How it is made knowne unto us.
4 How it is embraced & received by us.
5 For what end we are redeemed.
6 What benefits we must see hereof in our selves.

Q. *By whom was our Redemption wrought?*

A. Only by Christ, *Gal.* 4.5. *1 Cor.* 1.30. *Acts* 4.12.

Q. *What is Christ?*

A. He is the Son of God by *eternall generation*, according to his God-head, and by grace of *personall union*, according to his manhood, *Psal.* 2.7. *Luke* 1.35.

Q. *How is Christ distinguished from the Father?*

A. Two wayes:

1 According to his *person*, as he is the Son of God, the second person in the Trinity, 1 *Joh.* 5.7.

2 Arcording to his *Office*, as he is Mediator, both God and man, *John* 17.5.

Q. *How is Christ said to be both equall and inferiour to the Father?*

A. He is equall according to his *divine nature*, but inferiour according to his *office* of Mediatorship, *Phil.* 2.6. *John* 10.29,30. *John* 14.28.

Q. How

Q. *How is Christ distinguished in himself?*

A. By his person, by his natures, by his properties, by his actions: His person is but *one*, his natures, properties and actions are *double*, divine and humane, *Mat.*1.23. *Joh.*1.14. *Mat.*23,37. *Joh.*2.19.

Q. *Did he work our Redemption by one nature, or else by both?*

A. By both his natures, 1 *Cor.*2.8.

Q. *Whence doth it appear, that Christ is our Redeemer & Mediator, according to both natures?*

A. 1 He did assume our flesh, that so being God and man, he might be a fit person to perform the office of a Redeemer, to reconcile both God and man together, 1 *Tim.*2.5.

2 He was *man*, to suffer for man, and he was *God*, to make his suffering of an infinite value, a compleat satisfaction for mans Redemption, *Heb.*2.14,15,16.

3 Christ so performed the office of a Mediator, according to both natures, that there was a *communion* in the work, but a *distinction* of the nature and manner of the work, in the natures working: Christ *suffered* in his humane nature, but *vanquished* and overcame the things which he suffered by the power of his Divide nature: He *satisfied* in the humane nature, but the worth,

dignity, efficacy and application of the *satisfaction proceeded* from his divine Nature *Heb.*9.14.*Heb.*5.5.*Acts* 20.28.

Q *How could the short sufferings of Christ satisfie the infinite Justice of God, and purchase his everlasting favour?*

A The infinite merit of Christs passion ariseth from his infinite *God-head*; mans sin, though in it self finite, yet became infinite, by being committed against an infinite Justice: So Christs sufferings, though finite in regard of time, yet became Infinite by divine merit, *Acts* 20.28.

Q *But how doth this work of Redemption belong to the divine nature, seeing the divine nature could not suffer, because it was immutable, nor dye because it was immortall?*

A In regard of *personall union*, the divine nature manifesting it selfe in the flesh, and the humane nature being made one by personal union with the divine, whatsoever is done unto either of the natures, is take as done unto the both, *Joh.*1.14.*Ph.*2.7,8.

Q *How manifold is the office of Christ the Mediator?*

A Threefold; as a *Prophet* he teacheth, as a *Priest* he sanctifieth, as a *King* he governeth, as a Prophet he *explaineth*, as a Priest he *obtaineth*, as a King he *applieth* salvation

vation to his people, *Acts* 3.22. *Heb.* 10.1 c 14. *Eph.* 5.25,26,27. *Isa.* 9.6,7.

Q. *Shew me yet more fully what he doth as a Prophet?*

A. He *sheweth* us our misery by sin, and happinesse by grace, *Joh.* 1.9. 18. *Mat.* 17.5.

Q. *How doth he doe this?*

A. *Outwardly*, by the preaching of the Law and Gospel, and *inwardly*, by enlightning the understanding, *Mat.* 4.17. *Isa.* 61. 1. *Eph.* 4.11. *John* 5.25. 1 *John* 2.27.

Q. *What doth he as a Priest?*

A. He *redeemeth* us from evill, and purchaseth for us Gods grace and favour, *Heb.* 2.17. *Psal.* 110.4. 1 *Pet.* 2.24.

Q. *How doth he doe this?*

A. 1. By *keeping* the Law, *Rom.* 8.34.

2. By *offering* himself a Sacrifice to God *Eph.* 5.2.

3. By *making* intercession for us, *Heb.* 7. 25,26,27. *John* 17.9.

Q. *How doth he make intercession for us?*

A. 1. By *presenting* himselfe to God the Father as our Mediator and Redeemer, *Heb.* 9.24. 1 *John* 2.1.

2. By *promising* obedience and thankfulnesse on our behalfe, *John* 17.6,25,26.

3. By *praying* for us, *John* 17.9.

Q. *What doth he doe as a King?*

A. He doth *rule* and defend his Kingdome and redeemed people from all evill, and doth *continue* them in the grace & favour of God for ever, *Psal.*2.6,8,9. *Luke* 1. 32. *Joh.* 10.28. *Mat.*2.8.20. *Heb.* 12.28.

Q. How doth he doe this?

A. 1 By *getting* victory over his and our enemies, 1 *Cor.*15.54,55. *Col.*2,15. *Heb.*2. 14. *Hos.* 13.14.

2 By *calling* and gathering together the people of his Kingdome, and taking possession in their hearts, *Joh.* 17.11,12. *Joh.* 10.16. *Eph.*4.11. *Eph.*3.17.

By *prescribing* to them lawes of obeying and beleeving, *Mat.* 17.5. *Acts* 17.31. *Isa.* 11.2,3,4.

4 By *moving* their Hearts inwardly through the feeling of Gods present favour and hope of future glory, to beleeve and obey, *Rom.*8.14. *Mat.*3.11. 2 *Cor.*7.4, 5. 2 *Cor.*5.20.

5 By *bestowing* on them all things needfull to salvation, *Ps.*45.13,14. *Eph.*4.11,12.

6 By *restraining* and punishing the enemies wch rise against them, 1 *Cor.*15.24,25.

Q. You said but even now, that Christs sufferings, in regard of his God-head, were of an infinite value, did he therefore in the intention of God his father, dye for, and redeem all men? as the Papists and their adherents teach?

A.

A. He redeemed men of all *nations*, and of all conditions, but not all particular *persons*, *Revel.*5.9. *Rom.*8.33,34. *Joh.*17.19, 20. *Joh.*10.15. *Eph.*5.23.

Q. *How doe you further make the truth hereof apparent?*

A. By divers things:

1 The Father did not *chooſe* all, therefore nether did the Son dye for, and *redeem* all; for the work of the Son in Redemption doth not exceed the work of the Father in Election, becauſe he worketh from the Father, *Jo.*17.2,4 *Jo.*15.15 *Jo.*12.49.50

2 The Spirit doth not *ſanctifie* all, therfore neither did the Son *redeem* all; for the work of the Spirit in Sanctification, commeth not ſhort of the work of the Father in Election, nor of the Son in Redemption; becauſe he worketh from the Father and the Son, taking poſſeſſion of what the Father did chooſe and the Son purchaſe, ſanctifying whō the Son did redeem, *Jo.*14 26. *Joh.*15.26. *Joh.*16.7,13,14,15. 1 *Pet.*1.2.

3 The *love* of God and Chriſt, which was the moving cauſe of his death, doth not *extend* to all, neither was his death intended for all, *Joh.*3.16. *Joh.*13.1. *Rō.*9.13.

4 Chriſt did not *riſe* againe for all, therefore neither did he *dye* for all, *Rom.*4. 25. 1 *Cor.*15.20.

5 Christ doth not *pray* for all; therefore neither did he die for, & *redeem* al, *Joh.*17.9

6 The death, resurrection and intercession of Christ are *inseparable*, make him a *compleat* Redeemer, and are *peculiar* to Gods chosen people, *Rom.*8.33,34.

7 Christ doth not inwardly *instruct* all as a Prophet, *Mat.*13.13. nor spiritually *rule* in the hearts of all, as a King, *Rom.*16.16. therfore neither did he *die* for al, as a Priest, for the offices of Christ are of equal extent

8 For whom Christ *dyed*, to them are *given* the Spirit, Faith, Hope, Love, and every other saving grace, *Rom.* 8. 31, 32. but this all men have not, 2 *Thes.*3.2.

9 Had Christ laid downe his life a ransome for all men, then the justice of God being once *satisfied*, a second punishment could not without injustice be *inflicted*, *Mat.*20.28. *Isa.*53.11,12.

Q. Wherein standeth this Redemption thus wrought by Christ?

A. In three things:

I. In *satisfying* Gods justice by suffering the full punishment of sinne, *Mark*10.45. *Isa.*53.5.

II. In *fulfilling* Gods law, by obeying perfectly, *Mat.*5.17. *Rom.*10.4.

III. In *delivering* us from the power of sin

ſin, and curſe due to the ſame, by applying unto us the benefits of his active and paſſive obedience, *Rom.* 8. 2, 3. 2 *Cor.* 15. 15.

Q. *Why muſt this puniſhment be ſuffered by Chriſt?*

A. Becauſe otherwiſe there is no *eſcaping* of eternall death, *Heb.* 9. 22.

Q. *Why muſt the law be fulfilled by Chriſt?*

A. Becauſe otherwiſe there is no *enjoying* of eternall life, *Rom.* 5. 18, 19.

Q. *Why muſt the benefits of Chriſts active and paſſive obedience be applyed?*

A. Becauſe otherwiſe our ſin is not *deſtroyed*, our imperfections are not *covered*, our perſons and actions are not *accepted*, neither is the wrath of God againſt us *appeaſed*, *Pſ.* 3. 8, 9, 10. *Rom.* 8. 8, 9. *Ro.m* 7. 5. *Ro.* 6. 22, 23.

Q. *How is the myſtery of our Redemption made knowne unto us?*

A. By the preaching of the Goſpel, *Luk.* 24. 25, 26. *Acts* 10. 43.

Q. *How is this Redemption received and embraced by us?*

A. Onely by faith, *Iohn* 3. 16.

Q. *For what end did Chriſt redeem us?*

A. To ſerve God alwayes in true holineſſe, *Luke* 1. 74, 75. *Tit.* 2. 14.

Q. *What benefits of our Redemption muſt we ſeek in our ſelves?*

I. *Freedome* from the bondage of Satan, *Heb.*2.14. 1 *Joh.*3.8,9.

II. A *death* of sin, *Rom.*6.5,6.

III. *Newnes* of life, 1 *Co.*5.7,8. *Rev.*5.9,10

IIII. *Reconciliation* with God, *Rom.*5.1. *Col.*1.20. *Eph.*2.13.

V. An holy *agreement* betweene our hearts and Gods Cõmandements, 1 *Joh.*5.3

VI. An heavenly *peace* in our consciences, 1 *Joh.*3.21. *Rom.*5.5.

VII. An holy *triumph* over the feare of death, 1 *Cor.*15.57.

Chap. IV.

Question.

What is the third step by which God doth proceed in the work of mans salvation?

A. Vocation. Q. *What is Vocation?*

A It is a holy and gracious work of God, by his Word and Spirit calling men sinfull and subject to damnation, out of their naturall & corrupt estate, to beleeve in Christ, and to lead a new life, *Act.*26.18.

Q. *What are the parts of Vocation?*

A. They are two: 1 The offering: 2 The receiving of Christ, *John* 1.11,12.

Q. *what is the offering of Christ to us in our Vocation?*

A The propoling of Christ as the only necessary and sufficient means of salvation, 1 *Cor.*1.23,24. *Heb.*7.25. *Acts* 4.12.

Q. *What*

Q. *What is the receiving of Christ?*

A The joyning of Christ unto man, and of man unto Christ, *John* 6.56. *Eph.* 5.23.

Q. *How doth God call men to this new estate?*

A By the ministery of the *Word* as the outward, by the working of the *Spirit* as the inward means, *Acts* 10.44. *Acts* 16.14. *Acts* 9.15. *Eph.* 1.17. 1 *Cor.* 3.6.

Q. *From what doth God call them?*

A From the bondage of Satan, & service of all sin, *Col.* 1.12,13. *Tit.* 3.3,4. *Mat.* 9.13.

Q. *Whereunto doth he call them?*

A Unto true holinesse, 1 *Thes.* 4.7.

Q. *Why doth he thus call them?*

A I. That they may have *union* and communion with Christ Jesus, 1 *Cor.* 1.9.

II. That they may *love*, feare and honour God in Christ, *Jer.* 32.39,40.

III. That they may *make sure* their election unto themselves, 2 *Pet.* 1.10.

IV. That they may be *fit* to inherit eternall glory, 2 *Pet.* 1.3. *Revel.* 21.27.

Q. *Who are they that be thus called?*

A By the outward Ministry of the word *good and bad* are called, *Mat.* 20.16. *Mat.* 13.47,48. but by the inward working of the Spirit the *chosen* only are called, *Rom.* 8.30, *Acts* 13.48.

Q. *What are the properties of Vocation?*

A They are five: I. In

I. *Freedome* from the bondage of Satan, *Heb.*2.14. 1 *Joh.*3.8,9.

II. A *death* of sin, *Rom.*6.5,6.

III. *Newnes* of life, 1 *Co.*5.7,8. *Rev.*5.9,10

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Q. *What are the properties of Vocation?*

A They are five: I. In-

I. It is *free*, Joh. 3. 8. Rō. 8. 28. Isa. 44. 6. 7.

II. It is *holy*, 2 Tim. 1. 9.

III. It is *irresistable*, Joh. 6. 37. John. 10. 16. Isa. 55. 10, 11, 12. 13. Ezek, 36. 25, 26.

IV. It is *peculiar* to the chosen, Act. 13. 48.

V. It is *unchangeable*, Rom. 11. 29. Jer. 32. 40.

Q. *How may a man know that he is effectually called?*

A. By nine signes accompanying it.

Q. *What be they?*

A. I. True *illumination*, whereby a man is able to see his own wretchednesse by sin & also to behold the riches of Gods mercy in Christ towards his own soul, 1 Pet. 2. 9.

II. A thorough *detestation* of that sin which hath formerly been most pleasing to him, Hos. 14. 8. Isa. 30. 21, 22. Luk. 19. 8, 9.

III. A *loathing* of evill, and delighting in holy company, 2 Cor. 6. 17, 18. Psal. 119. 115. Psal. 26. 4, 5. Psal. 16. 3.

IV. A competent measure of *grace* befitting that calling, with a holy care to walk as beseemeth the same, Eph. 4. 1. 1 Thes. 2. 12.

V. A singular *readinesse* to performe all the Lords Commandements, Gal. 1. 15, 16. Cant. 1. 4. Psal. 119. 32.

VI. A carefull *endeavour* to have peace with all men, so much as may be; but especially

pecially with Gods people, *Rom.* 12.18. *Col.*3.15. 1 *Cor.*7.15. 1 *Pet.*3.8,9.

VII. A hearty *cleaving* unto God, and making a good profession of Gods truth in all estates, 1 *Tim.*6.11. *Luke* 9.23,26.

VIII. A high *estimation* of this calling, and of the means by which a man is called, *Phil.*3.14. *Psal.*119.22.

IX A comfortable *experience* of Gods disposing and ordering al things to work for the best unto him, *Rom.* 8.28. *Gen.*41.52. *Gen.*50,20.

Q. *What fruits doth this doctrine of mans Misery, Redemption and Vocation, bring forth in them whom God doth ordaine to eternall life?*

A. It doth work 10 several graces in the.

Q. *What is the first?*

A A cleer *sight* of our wofull and loathsome estate by nature, *Prov.*30.1,2. *Jer.*31.18. *Rom.*7.9.

Q. *What is the second?*

A A true *sense* of our misery by sin, *Psal.* 38.4. *Rom.*7.24.

Q. *What is the third?*

A *Contrition* and brokenneſſe of heart, 2 *Cor.*7.10. *Psal.*51.17. *Luke* 7.38.

Q. *What is the fourth?*

A A thorough *detestation* of sin, *Psal.*119.128. *Hos.*14.8.

Q. *What is the fift?* *A* An

A An earneſt *deſire* of the pardon of ſin *Pſal.*51.9.

Q What is the ſixth?

A A holy *conſultation* what to do to get forth of this ſinfull eſtate, *Acts* 16.29,30.

Q What is the ſeventh?

A A humble and free *confeſſion* of all ſin *Pſal.*32.5.*Pſ.*139.23.*Luk.*15.18,19,*Pſ.*51.3.

Q What is the eight?

A An unfained forſaking of all ſin, to enjoy the graces of the Spirit, and favour of God, *Mat.*13.44. *Iſa.*30.22. *Pſal.*66.18.

Q What is the ninth?

A A ſound *application* of Chriſt and his promiſes to our owne ſoules, truſting in Chriſt, and caſting our ſelves wholly upon him for pardon and ſalvation, *John* 20 28. *Phil.*3.12,13.

Q What is the tenth?

A An *high valuing* of Chriſt, ſtrong and fervent love to Chriſt, and an holy reliſhing of more ſweetneſſe in the Goſpel, than in any thing in the world, cõſecrating our ſelves to Chriſt in holineſſe & true righteouſnes to ſerve him, *Lu* 7.47.*Pſ.*4.6,7.*Jer.* 15.16.*Pſ.*119.103.*Rom.*10.15.*Rom.*12.1,2.

Chap. V.

Queſtion.

WHat is the 4th ſtep by which God proceedeth in the work of mans ſalvation? *A*

A Justification.

Q *What is Justification?*

A It is a gracious action of God, whereby he *imputeth* the righteousnesse of Christ to all true beleevers, and for the merit of Christ freely *absolveth* them from all their sins, and *reputeth* them just unto life, *Rom.* 3.22,24. 2 *Cor.*5.21. *Psal.*32.1,2.

Q *How manifold is Justification?*

A Two-fold; Legall, *Rom.*2.13. Evangelicall, *Rom.*5.18.

Q *What is the matter of our justification?*

A Christs active and passive obedience, together with his originall righteousnesse *Gal.*3.10. *Rom.*5.19.

Q *How is Christs originall righteousnesse a part of his satisfaction, and of our justification?*

A I. Christs orignall *Righteousnesse* answers our originall *sin.*

II. The law requires not only *actual* obedience, but also *original* & ful conformity.

III. Whole Christ is ours, and whatsoever he was made, whatsoever he did or was, that he was made, that he did and was for us, *Isa.*9.6. 1 *Cor.*1.30.

Q *Is the active obedience of Christ necessary to our justification, as well as his passive?*

A Yes: For,

I. As Christs passive obedience was ne-

cessary

ceſſary for the *expiation* of our ſin, ſo his active obedience is neceſſary for the *obtaining* of life eternall.

II. As the law bindeth to *puniſhment*, threatning death to them that tranſgreſſe it, *Deut.* 27.26. So it bindeth to *obedience*, promiſing life to them that keep it, *Levit.* 18.5. *Luke* 10.28.

III. As Chriſts paſſive obedience anſwers mans *guilt* of Sin, and damnation: ſo his active obedience anſwers mans *want* of Righteouſneſſe, *Rom* 3.22.

Q. *What are the parts of Juſtification?*

A. Two:

I The *Imputation* of Chriſts righteouſneſſe, wherby the Beleever hath his ſin covered, and is accepted as juſt in the ſight of God, *Phil.* 3.8,9,10.

II *Remiſſion* of ſin, wherby the Beleever is freed from the guilt and puniſhment of ſin, *Col.* 1.21,22. 1 *Pet.* 2.24.

Q. *What is the moving cauſe of mans juſtification?*

Anſ. The *inward* moving cauſe is Gods *mercy*, *Rom.* 3.24. the *outward* moving cauſe is the *merit* & efficacy of Chriſts active and paſſive obedience, 1 *Joh.* 1.7. 2 *Cor.* 5.18,19.

Q. *What is the formall cauſe?*

A The *Imputation* of Chriſts righteouſnes 2 *Cor.* 5.2. 1 *Cor.* 1.30. *Ier.* 23.5.

Q.

Q. *What is the instrumentall cause of our Justification?*

An A lively faith, laying hold on the Righteousnesse of Christ, *Rom.*3.28.

Q. *Doth faith alone justifie us?*

A Faith is alone in the *act* of justifying; but not alone in the *heart* and life of the justified person, *Rom.*3.28. *Iam.*2.17. *Ephes.* 2.8.9,10. *Gal.*5.6.

Q. *What is Faith?*

A It is a holy and stedfast resting of the heart upon God in Christ, as the only and al-sufficient Author of salvation and life eternal, *Isa.*10.20. *Psa.*37.3,4,5. *Rom.*10.11 2 *Cor.*3.4. 2 *Cor.*5.6,7,8. *Deut.*30.20.

Q. *What is the nature of Faith in generall?*

A To cleave unto the Lord, and to cast our selves, and our burthen upon him in all estates, *Ios.*23.8. *Acts* 11.23. 1 *Cor.*6.17. *Psa.*55.22. *Psa.*62.8. 2 *Pet.*5.7.

Q. *What doth the nature of Faith more particularly comprehend under it?*

An I. *Knowledge* of that which God hath proposed to be beleeved, 1 *Joh.*4.16. *Io.*10. 38. *Io.*17.3.

II. *Assent* to the profer of grace, *Io.*3.33

III. A pious *affection* towards God, whence ariseth a high estimation of the promise of life, & a base account of all things

in

in cõparison of the love of God in Christ, *Deut.4.4. Deut.11.22. Cant.1.2. Psal.63.3.*

IV. An earnest desire after the happinesse revealed in the Gospel. *Isa.55.1. Gal.5.5. Luke 2.25.*

V. A *resting* upon God in Christ, for the obtaining of that good which he hath proposed to us in his Word, *Jer.17.7. Jo.6.68*

VI. An *election*, chosing and apprehending of the promise of life in Christ, so making it our owne, *John 1.12.*

Q. *Wherein standeth the essence and perfection of faith?*

A. In our election, apprehending and singling out Christ unto our selves, as the onely sufficient and fit meanes to bring us to life, *Gen.2.16. Ioh.20.28. Psal.119.30.31.*

Q. *Whereupon is faith builded?*

A. Upon the sacred Scriptures alone, whose Author is God, *2 Pet.1.19,20. Rom.3.4. 1 Cor.2.5.*

Q. *Whence is it that the act of believing springeth?*

A. From the internall operation and perswasion of the holy spirit, as the proper cause of it, *1 Cor.12.3,11.*

Q. *What is the outward and ordinary meanes by which faith is wrought?*

A. By the faithfull preaching of Gods Word,

Word, *Rom.* 10.14,15,17. *Eph.* 1.13. 1 *Cor.* 1.21. *Ier.* 3.15. *Acts* 13.42.40. *Isa.* 57.19.

Q. *What is the object of faith?*

A Christ as Redeemer is the *mediate* object of faith, and God is the *ultimate*, for we beleeve in God through Christ, *Rom.* 6.11. 2 *Cor.* 3.4. 1 *Pet.* 1.21.

Q. *Whereunto doth faith carry the heart of the Beleever to seek true comfort?*

A To the *merit* of Christ, and to the *promises* and *providence* of God, *John* 14. 1, 2. 2 *Tim.* 1.12. *Rom.* 4.21. *Heb.* 11.13.

Q. *What is the Subject or Seat of Faith?*

A The heart and will of the Regenerate, *Rom.* 10.10.

Q. *Whence doth it appear that the will rather than the understanding is the seat of Faith?*

A I. Because Faith is an act of election, choosing and embracing Christ, and making him ours, which is more than an act of the understanding, *John* 1.12. *Job.* 6.35.

II. Because, though Faith doth always presuppose the knowledge of the Gospel, yet there is no saving knowledge distinct from that which is in many Reprobates, unlesse it be both consequent unto, and also dependent upon the act of the will, *John* 7.17. *John* 8.31,32. 1 *John* 2.3.

III. Because Faith uniteth us to Christ, causeth

causeth us to give and apply our selves unto God in Christ, which is not an act of the understanding, but a consent and work of the will, 2 *Cor.*5.14,15.

IIII. Because knowledge of it selfe, is common to Beleevers, with unbeleevers and devils, *Iam.*2.19,20.

Q. *In what order, or by what degrees doth God prepare them to beleeve, whom he hath ordained unto life?*

An. I. By the Law.

II. By the Gospell.

Qu. *How by the Law?*

An. I. By *inlightning* the sinner to see his miserable estate by sin, with the punishment due to the same, *Rom.*7.7,9. *Ro.*3.20.

II. By *convincing* the sinner that he is the guilty person, to whom the Messenger of the Lord speaketh, 1 *Cor.*14.24,25. 2 *Sam.*12.7.

III. By *raising* the Sinner out of his Security, filling his soul with terror, making him see the fulfilling of the Law to be impossible; making him feele the bearing of the punishment to be intolerable, and the committing of the sin uncomfortable, *Gen.*4.13. *Acts* 2.37.

Qu. *Are all such as be thus wrought upon by the Law, afterward brought to beleeve?*

Answer, No: Many

Many Reprobates and Hypocrites are thus convinced and terrified, and so left, *Mat.*27.3,4,5. *Gen.*4.13,16,17. *Acts* 24.25. 2 *Cor.*3.6.

And yet ordinarily all such as are appointed unto life, are thus in some degree wrought upon by the Law in the beginning, and so led forward unto faith by the Gospell, *Acts* 2.37. *Ier.*31.18.

Qu. *After men are thus prepared by the Law, how doth God lead them forward by the Gospell?*

An He doth by the Gospell *proclaime* a remedy for the easing of the soule of the sinner so distressed, and appeasing of the Conscience so disquieted, *Jo.*3.16. *Mat.*11.28. *Isa.*61.1,2.

II. By the Gospell: the Sinner thus afflicted is *perswaded* in the general, that God is mercifull, and that there is a remedy in Christ for sinners: and by this generall perswasion is supported against despaire, though he cannot mak any particular application hereof unto himself, for the present, *Isa.*55.6,7. 2 *Sam.*24.14. *Ps.*130.7,8. *Dan.*9.9. *Eze.*10.2,3. *Lam.*3.22,23.

III. Hereupon the thoughts of his own misery, the sweet voice of the Gospel, and the consideration of Gods loving kindnes in Christ working upon him, his heart be-

commeth

meth ſoft, humble, teachable, contrite and broken for ſin, and for diſhonouring God ſo loving and long-ſuffering, *Rom.* 2. 4. *Zech.* 12.10.

Q. *But how may a man know that his Contrition is not Legall, but Evangelicall?*

A Legall terror is chiefly for *fear of puniſhment*, leaving the ſoule ſtill hardned, but Evangelicall contrition is chiefly for *ſin*, making the heart truly ſoft, and cauſing ſin to be earneſtly, deeply and conſtantly bewailed, *Pſal.* 38. 3,4. *Pſal.* 31.10. *Mat.* 26.75. *Zech.* 12.10. 2 *Cor.* 12.7.

Q. *When the Goſpell, like fire, hath melted the ſtony heart of the ſinner, how doth it worke further?*

A. It doth beget in him further;

I. An utter *diſlike*, ſhame and deteſtation of all his former courſes, *Iſa.* 30.22. *Jer.* 31.19. *Ezek.* 37.31.

II. An unfained and full *confeſſion* and aggravation of his ſin, 1 *Sam.* 12.13. 1 *Tim.* 1.15. *Lam.* 3.40.

III. It doth *empty* him of all conceit of his owne goodneſſe, cauſing him utterly to deny himſelfe, 1 *Cor.* 3.18. *Rom.* 7.18.

IV. It cauſeth him to *wait* on God for direction to guide him, and to lead him forth of this perplexed eſtate, crying earneſtly

neſtly to God for conſolation, *Pſal.* 51.8, 9,10,11,12. *Pſal.* 143.8,9,10.

V Having *felt* his own wants, *diſpairing* of help in himſelf, and having *ſeen* Gods offer, & the excellency of mercy in Chriſt, he doth above all things moſt ſtrongly *deſire* the pardon of ſin, and faith to beleeve the promiſe of Gods mercy made in Chriſt to his own ſoul, *Luke* 18.13. *Pſal.* 143.1,2, 6. *Iſa.* 26.8,9.

VI. He is ſo ſolicitouſly *carefull* in the uſe of the means to attaine faith, 2 *Pet.* 1. 10. *findeth no reſt* till he getteth ſome aſſurance, *Pſal.* 38. 3. *Pſal.* 116. 3,4. *hungereth* and thirſteth vehemently after it, *Mat.* 5. 6 *Pſal.* 63. 1. *caſteth away* whatſoever may hinder it, *Mat.* 13.44,45. *waiteth* on the Lord with patience, *Iſa.* 28. 16. beginneth at length to be *perſwaded* in his heart that he ſhall have it, *Pſal.* 103 8. *Heb.* 10.37. *Mark* 9 24. and ſo at length doth God *ſeale up* unto his ſoule the pardon of his ſin, and doth enable him to *beleeve* the ſame, *Eph.* 1.13,14. *Pſal.* 116. 6,7,8.

Q *How far may a Reprobate goe in this way?*

A He may goe fourteen ſteps.

Q *Which be they?*

A 1. He may *know* and acknowledge the truth, 2 *Pet.* 2. 21. *Luke* 12.47. 1 *Cor.* 13. 2.

11 He.

II. He may be *troubled* in conscience by hearing the Word, *Acts* 24.25.

III. He may be *perplexed* in mind about sin, before he doth commit it, *Mar.*6.26.

IIII He may be full of *sorrow* after the commission of sin, *Mat.*27.3,4.

V He may *confesse* his sin in time of vexation, *Exod.*9.27.

VI He may *pray*, and desire others to pray for him in the day of affliction, *Acts* 8.24. 1 *Kings* 21.27.

VII He may be at great *costs* in and about Gods service, *Gen.*4.3. *I.*1.11,12,13. *Mica* 6.6,7.

VIII He may make an open and glorious *profession* of the wayes of godlinesse, *Isa.*58.2 *Iob.*6.26. *Ezek.*33.31,32. *Mat.*25.1,2,3.

IX He may take *joy* and taste sweetnes in some part of Gods Word, *Mar.* 6.20. *Mat.*13.20,21. *Heb.*6.5.

X He may *amend* his life in many things and be zealous, and so farre escape all the pollutions of the world, that none can justly taxe him with any open evill, 2 *Pet.* 2.20. *Mar.*6.20. 2 *Kin.*20.28,29.

XI He may *wonder* at, and be strangely affected with the glorious things revealed in Gods ordinances, *Luk.*4.22,23.

XII He

XII He may *approve*, and commend the best Preachers, and frequent the best company, and desire their gifts and graces, *Ezek.* 33.31,32. *Mat.* 25.1,8.

XIII He may *delight* in frequenting Gods house, he may hold out with Christ in great trouble, and upon some inward, yet common worke, perswade himselfe of being in Gods favour, *Isa.* 58.2,3. *Mat.* 13.22. *Pro.* 14.12. *Ier.* 1.26.

XIV He may *give* liberally to the needy, and *suffer* even death in the cause of Christ, 1 *Cor.* 13.3.

Qu *Is it not a great discouragement to Gods children that hypocrites goe so farre in the way to heaven, and that Gods children are so hardly distinguished from them?*

An No: but they must labour so much the more earnestly to goe beyond them, and to make their Calling and Election sure, *Mat.* 5.20. 2 *Pet.* 1.10.

Qu *Wherein doth a childe of God goe beyond an hypocrite?*

Answ In Twelve things:

I In hating sin *universally*, and throughly, *Psa.* 119.104. *Psal.* 66.18.

II In relying upon God *firmly*, and constantly, *Rom.* 8.38. *Psal.* 62.8. *Col.* 2.7.

III In loving God *unfainedly*, for the pu-

rity and lovelineſſe of Gods nature, *Deut.* 6.5. *Cant.*2.5.*Mat.*10.37.

IIII In meditating upon, and rejoycing in the *whole Word* of God, *Pſal.*119.14,15. 16.143. *Ier.*15.16.

V In obeying the whol wil of God *cheerfully*, *Pſ.*40.8.*Pſ.*110.3. *Pſ.*119.128.1 *Io.*5.3.

VI In *deſiring ſincerity* with much earneſtneſſe, *Pſa.*139.23,24.

VII In exerciſing holy duties with *Conſtancy*, and ſtriving to keep a good conſcience toward God and Man continually, *Iob* 27.6.11. *Acts* 24.16.

VIII In being truly *poor* in ſpirit, carried cleer out of themſelves, & every thing elſe, to Chriſt alone for all fulneſſe, *Iſa.*57.15.

IX In performing duties *in love* to Chriſt, deſiring grace, that he may honor Chriſt, grieving that he can performe no better ſervice to Chriſt.

X In deſiring, and endeavouring the glory of God, and Chriſt *above* his owne ſpirituall and temporall good, *Rom.*9.3. *Luk.*14.26.

XI In taking up his *full & everlaſting reſt* with Chriſt, *Phi.*1.21. Chriſt being al contentation to him, heaven it ſelf being without Chriſt an uncomfortable and empty dwelling in his apprehenſion, *Phil.* 3.7,8, 9,10.

XII In

XII. In being inclined, moved, and carried to God, to Christ, and holy things.

1 By the power of a new, and *inward principle* of grace; working a sutableneſſe between his heart and the things of God.

2 By the vertue of a cleer and *ſweet apprehenſion* which he hath of God in Christ, making him appeare most glorious in his eyes.

3 By the efficacy of a *pure & fervent love* to God in Christ, causing him to desire Christ for Christ himſelfe, & all other things for Christs sake, to make himself the more serviceable unto Christ, *Pſa.*40.8. *Pſ.*119.32.

Q. *How may a man know that he hath faith?*

An 1 By the *ſenſe* & feeling of Faith it ſelf; the beleever perceiving & feeling his heart choosing, and singling out, strongly cleaving unto & relying upon Christ, *Rom* 8.38,39. 1 *Cor.*2.12. *Mar.*9.24. 2 *Tim.*1.12,

2 By the fruits and signes of Faith, *Mat.* 7.16,17. *Jam.*18.

Qu. *How many ſorts of ſignes are there?*

An Two: one of Faith more weak, the other of Faith more ſtrong.

Qu. *What are the ſignes of faith more weak?*

An 1 *A feeling* of the want of faith, with an earnest desire to have it, *Mar.*9.24.

2 A ſpirituall *combat* between the fleſh

and the Spirit, *Ga.*5.17. *Ro.*7.23. *Mat.*11.28

3 An earneſt *ſeeking* after, & valuing of the love of God in Chriſt, above al the things in the world, *Cant.*2.4. *Pſ.*51.8,10. *Pſ.*4.6.

4 *Deniall* of our ſelves, ariſing from the apprehenſion of our own vilenes and emptineſſe, and Chriſts fulneſſe to ſupply our wants, *Mark* 8.34. 1 *Cor.* 3.18. *Ezek.*20.43.

5 Godly *ſorrow* ariſing from the apprehenſion of Gods love in Chriſt, ſoftning and melting our hearts, *Rom.*2.4. 2 *Cor.*7.10,11. *Zech.*12.10.

6 An high *eſtimation* of Gods Word, *Job* 23.12. *Pſal.*119.72. 1 *Pet.*2.2.

7 Unfained *love* to Gods people, 1 *John* 3.14. *Gal.*5.6.

Q *What are the ſignes of Faith more ſtrong?*

A 1 A comfortable *feeling* of Gods love ſhed abroad into our hearts, *Rom.*5.5. *Can.* 1.2.

2 A ſound and *ſtrong joy* in the Lord, and in his Word, *Rom.*15.13. *Phil.*4.7. *John* 15.11. *Iſa.*9.3. *Neh.*8.10.

3 A holy *admiratiõ* at the wonderful chãge which God hath wrought in us, *Pſ.*66.16.

4 An earneſt endeavour to *win* others unto Chriſt, *Luke* 22.32.

5 An effectuall and *through application* of our ſelves to Chriſt, to ſerve him and ſeek

his

his praise in, and above all things, *Rom.* 12.1,2. 2 *Cor.*5.15.

6 A firme *dependance* upon God in the deepest *perplexities*, with a strong perswasion of a happy issue of all troubles, *Job* 19. 25. *Job* 13.5. *Rom.*4.18.

7 An earnest longing for *Christs comming* unto Judgement, 2 *Tim.*4.8. *Cant.*8.1. *Psal.* 42.1,2. *Revel.*22.20.

Q *Cannot a weake Faith save us?*

A Yes: For it *ingraffeth* us into Christ, maketh us *just* in Gods sight, *gathereth* us into the family of Gods children, and giveth us *victory* over sin and satan, *John* 15. 1. *John* 1.12. *Gal.*3.7. *Isa.*42.3. *Isa.*40.11. 1 *John* 5.4.

Q *May a man, having gotten a weak Faith, rest contented therewith?*

A No: But he must carefully endeavour to have it encreased, *Mark* 9.14. *Rom.* 1.17. *Col.*2.7.

Q *By what meanes may a man get his weake Faith confirmed?*

A 1 By an ordinary and *conscionable use* of the Word and Sacraments, *Eph.* 1. 13. *Rom.*4.11.

2 By *fervent prayer* unto God, *Luke* 17.5.

3 By a frequent and holy *Meditation* upon Gods Promises, Fatherly affection

and unspeakable goodnesse, *Psal.* 104.34. *Psal.*63.5,6. *Isa.*49.14,15.

4 By exercising a *holy communion* with the Saints of God, *John* 20.19,25.

5 By a *holy care* to shun all sin, with all occasions leading thereunto, *James* 1.27. 1 *Thes.*5.22.

6 By leading a sincere and *sanctified conversation*, *Psal.*112.6,7,8. 1 *John* 3.19.

6 By a patient *waiting* upon God, *Psal.* 40.1,2,3.

Qu *What may move us to get this Faith wrought in us?*

A The benefit and excellency of faith, 2 *Pet.*1.1. 1 *Pet.*1.7.

Q *Wherein doth the benefit, and excellency of Faith appeare?*

A The benefit and excellency of Faith appeareth three wayes.

1 In the *miseries* from which it delivereth

2 In the *evils* which it preventeth.

3 In the privileges which it bestoweth.

Q *What are the miseries from which Faith delivereth?*

A They are seven.

1 From *blindnesse* in our understandings *John* 15.46.

2 From *uncleannesse* in our affections, *Acts* 15.9.

3 From

3 From a ſtony and *ſtupified heart*, Zech. 12 10. *Jonah* 3.5.

4 From the *terror* of an accuſing conſcience, & the inſupportable *burden* of our corruptions, *Luk.* 7.48,50. *Num.* 21.8. *Rom.* 5.1.

5 From the *ſinfull luſts*, faſhions, and yeelding to the oppoſitions of the world, 1 *John* 5.4. *Rom.* 12.1,2.

6 From the *curſe* of the Law, and terror of the world, *Rom.* 10.4. 1 *Tim.* 1.9.

7 From the *fear* of temporall, & condemnation of death eternal, *Joh.* 5.29. *Joh.* 3.16

Q. *What are the evils which faith preventeth?*

A. They are foure:

1 *Apoſtacy* from the truth, *Heb.* 10.39.

2 Utter *deſperation* in the day of affliction *Micah* 7.8. *John* 19.25.

3 *Impatience*, and uſe of unlawfull means, *Iſa.* 28.16.

4 *Sinking* under Satans temptation, *Eph.* 6.16. 1 *Pet.* 5.9.

Q. *What are the priviledges which Faith wrought and confirmed beſtoweth on us?*

A. They are twelve:

1 *Sonſhip* with God, *John* 1.12. *Gal.* 3.7.

2 *Fellowſhip* with Chriſt, *Gal.* 2.20. *Epheſ.* 3.17.

3 *Intereſt* in all Gods promiſes, *Heb.* 11. 33. *Gal.* 3.14.

4 True *comfort* and benefit by all Gods Ordinances, *Acts* 8. 38, 39. *Matth.*13.24. 1 *Thes.*1.7.

5 *Acceptance* to our persons and actions *Heb.*11.4,6.

6 *Audience* to our holy and fervent prayers, *Jam.*1.6. *Jam.*5.15,16. *Mat.*21.22.

7 A comfortable *sense* of Gods love in our hearts, *Rom.*5.5. *Cant.*1.2. *Psal.*63.3.

8 A sweet *peace* in our consciences, arising from the assured forgivenesse of our sins, *Rom.*5.1. *Cant.*1.2. *Psal.*116.7,8.

9 A heavenly *sweetnesse* in the society of Gods servants, *Rom.*1.12. *Psal.*119.72.

10 A holy *contempt* of carnall pleasures with a sweet joy in the deepest afflictions, *Heb.*11.25. 1 *Pet.*1.6,7.

11 *Perseverance* to the end in the way of godlinesse, and favour of the Lord Jesus, 1 *Pet.*1.5.

12 *Assurance* of future happinesse after this earthly pilgrimage, 2 *Cor.*5.1.

Q *May a man have his Faith so strengthned, that he may be thereby assured of his salvation?*

A He may, and ought to be assured in this life, of a happy and glorious estate in the next life, 2 *Cor.*13.5. 2 *Cor.*5.1. 1 *John* 3. 1,2. 1 *John* 5.18,19.

Q *How doth it appear that the children of God are sure of their salvation?* Ans.

Anſ. Divers wayes:

1 By the *victory* which their Faith getteth over ſin, 1 *John* 5.4. *Rom.* 6.18.

2 By the holy *change* which it worketh in them, *Act.* 15.6. 1 *John* 3.3. 2 *Cor.* 5.17,18.

3 By feeling their hearts *imbracing*, cleaving unto, and relying upon Chriſt, *Col.* 2.7. *Job* 13.15. *Heb.* 6.19. *Pſal.* 18.1,2. *Pſal.* 71.1.

4 By the *teſtimony* of Gods Spirit, *Rom.* 8.16.

5 By the *evidence* and witneſſe of their owne regenerate Spirit, *Rom.* 8.16. 1 *John* 3.21.

6 By the feeling of *Gods love* in their ſoules, *Eph.* 3.19. *Rom.* 5.5.

7 By feeling their hearts to love God and Chriſt *above* all the world, *Pſal.* 73.25. *chap.* 5.10.

8 By the *confidence* wherewith they can appeare before God *in prayer*, *Rom.* 8. 15. 1 *John* 3.20,21.

9 By the *fruits* which they ſee in themſelves proper alone to Gods children, 1 *Cor.* 2.9,10.

10 By feeling the *power* and efficacy of Gods Word and Spirit, *perſwading* their conſciences of Gods goodneſſe towards them, *Rom.* 1.16. 1 *Joh.* 4.13. *Acts* 10.44.

Q. *Is it requisite that Gods people should labour for assurance of salvation?*

A Yes: For it is Gods *precept*, 2 *Pet.* 1. 10. 1 *Joh.* 3. 23. one speciall *end* of inditing the Scriptures, 1 *Joh.* 5. 13. and the choicest *comfort* of a Christian soule, *Luke* 10. 20. *Col.* 2, 2.

Q. *What is the danger or inconvenience if a man be not assured of his salvation?*

A The Ordinances and promises of God will *lose* their comfort, sweetnes and efficacy, *Heb.* 4. 2. 1 *Pet.* 2. 7, 8. *Isa.* 53. 1, 2.

2 The consideration of Gods presence will be *dreadfull*, and the thought of Christs comming unto judgement *uncomfortable*, *Psal.* 139. 7. *Revel.* 6. 16.

3 We shall not be able to beare afflictions with *patience*, *Numb.* 14. 11.

4 We shall not be able to performe holy duties with *cheerfulnesse*, *Exod.* 6. 9.

5 We shall not be able to *blesse* God for our Regeneration, joy and comfort of the Spirit, as it is the duty of Gods people to doe, *Col.* 1. 12, 13. 1 *Pet.* 1. 3.

6 We shall not be able to *encourage* others with alacrity and cheerfulnesse in the wayes of holinesse as we ought, *Ps.* 66. 16.

7 We shall stand continually in the *feare* of death, *John* 15. 21, 22.

Q. *Are*

Q *Are Gods children so sure of their salvation, that they are free from all doubting?*

A No: For,

1 The knowledge, assent and adhehence of Gods people to the promise of life, is *imperfect*, though sound, 1 *Cor.* 13. 9. *Psal.* 77. 7.

2 They are many times grievously *assaulted*, filled with much doubting, but in the issue they always get the conquest, and are the more assured, because they have been assaulted, 1 *Cor.* 10. 13. *Heb.* 6. 19. 2 *Tim.* 4. 17, 18. *Psal.* 116. 3. 7, 8. *Psal.* 142. 3.

3 They sometimes *lose* the efficacy, feeling and comfort of Faith, but the seed and habit of Faith alwayes remaineth, *Luke* 22. 32. *Job* 13. 5. 1 *Joh.* 3. 9. *John* 10. 28.

Q *Doe not Gods children sometimes lose their comfort in the wayes of God, and assurance of Gods love?*

A Yes; sometimes they are for a season deprived of the evidence and *sense* thereof, *Psal.* 51. 8, 12. *Isa.* 49. 14.

Q *How doth it come to pass that Gods children do sometimes lose their comfort in the Lord?*

A 1 Through *falling* into some foule sin, *Psal.* 51. 7, 8, 9. *Isa.* 59. 2.

2 Through some grievous and violent *temptation*, with the sense of Gods displeasure

ſure againſt them, *Pſal.*77.2,3,4. *Pſal.*22.1. *Job* 2.3,4.

3 Through over-long and heavy *affliction*, *Pſal.*6.6,7.

4 Through the *rebellion* of their inward corruption, *Rom.*7.23,24. 2 *Cor.*12.7.

5 Through the *want* of conſcionable, and conſtant attendance upon Gods Ordinances, *Pſal.*42.4,5. *Amos* 8.11,12. 1 *Sam.* 4.20,21. *Iſa.*30.19,21.

6 Through carnall *Security*, and want of keeping a diligent Watch over our ſonls, *Cant.*5.36.

7 Through *overburthening* our ſelves with the cares of the world, *Mat.*13.22.

8 Through *eſtrangedneſſe* from Gods ſervants, and familiarity with unholy people, *Heb.*3.12,13,14. *Heb.*10.24,25.

9 Through *neglect* of walking and maintaining a holy communion with God, *Pſal* 106.21,23. *Pſal.*89.31,32,33.

10 God for their *humiliation*, *triall* of the graces which are in them, and for the *breeding* of a higher eſtimation of his favour for the time to come, ſometimes deprives them of the comfortable feeling thereof for the time preſent, 2 *Chron.*32.31. *Job* 7. 18,19,20. *Deut.*8.2.16. *Revel.*2.10.

Q. *When Gods people are afflicted in Conſci-*

ence

ence, or deprived of their comfort, how may their peace be restored?

A By considering and meditating upon ten things in God and Christ.

1 The gentle, gracious and *mercifull nature* and disposition of God and Christ towards all penitent and broken-hearted people, *Isa.* 42.3. *Exod.*34.6,7, *Isa.*40.11. *Psa.*103.8,9,10. *Isa.*49.14,15.

2 The gracious and *loving invitations* which God and Christ doe use to all sorts of humbled sinners, *Mat.*11.28. *Isa.*21.16, 17. *Ezek.*18.31,32. *Psal.*81.13,14,15. *Mat.* 23.37. *Revel.*3.20.

3 The *freeneſſe* of Gods grace, and favour, bestowed without any merit, yea contrary to desert upon the penitent, *Isa.* 55.1. *Revel.*21.9. *Rom.*3.24. *Ephes.*2.8.

4 The large *extent* of his favour to all sorts of sinners, even to the most hainous, unfainedly seeking mercy, 1 *Tim.* 8.15. *Luke* 7.47. *Mat.*21.31,32. *Isa.*55.7.

5 His *easineſſe* to be entreated by penitent sinners, *Psal.*32.5. *Luke* 15.20.

6 The largeneſſe and faithfulneſſe of his *promiſes*, *Isa.*44.24,25,26. 2 *Cor.* 1,20. *Mal.*3.6.

7 The *ſenſe* and *feeling* which God and Christ have, after a manner unspeakable, of the miſe-

miseries of a troubled soule, *Isa.* 63.9. *Heb.* 4.15.

8 The *efficacy* of Christs blood, to purge away all sinne, and appease his Fathers wrath, *Heb.* 9.14. *Rezel.* 5.9. *Heb.* 29.

9 The joy and *delight* he doth conceive when men turne unto him, *Luke* 10.21. *John* 11.15.

10 The *end* of Christs sufferings, his Merits and efficacy of his Intercession for us, *Mark* 19.13. *Rom.* 8.33,34. *Isa.* 61.1,2,3.

Q. *Are there not some other helps in this behalfe?*

A Yes:

1 Unfained *humiliation* for the sinne which hath caused us to lose our comfort, *Psal.* 32.5. *Psal.* 51.8,9,10. *Isa.* 57.15.

2 A plain *opening* of our estates, and seeking of direction from Gods holy Ministers, *Acts* 2.37,38. *Acts* 16.30,31,32. *Isa.* 50.4. *Isa.* 40.1,2.

3 A constant *attendance* upon, and cleaving to the Ministery of the Word, *Cant.* 5.6,7. *Psal.* 65.4. *Psal.* 85.6,7,8

4 Fervent and constant *Prayer*, *Psal.* 50.15. *Psal.* 34.4.

5 A carefull *shutting* of our eares and hearts against Satans temptations, *James* 4.7. *Eph.* 4.27.

6 A

6 A ſerious *obſervation* of the graces which God hath wrought in us, *Matth.* 7.16.

7 Keeping a holy *Society* with Gods people, *Eccleſ.* 4.11,12,13,14.

8 Conſider that our graces are *imperfect*, 1 *Cor.* 13.12. that ſatan doth deſire to *vex* Gods people, *Job* 1.11,12. *Luk.* 22.31. that it is the uſuall manner of Gods dealing with his people, thus to afflict them, not for their deſtruction, but for their humiliation, triall and amendment, *Heb.* 12. 5,6,7. 1 *Cor.* 10.13. *James* 1.12.

Q *How may Gods people prevent the loſing of their comfort?*

A 1 By meditating ſeriouſly upon the loving kindneſſe of the Lord every *morning* *Pſal.* 92.1.2,3,4.

2 By walking religiouſly and circumſpectly in all the duties of the *day*, *Pro.* 18. 14. *Pro.* 23.17. 1 *Pet.* 1.17.

3 By viewing their wayes, renewing their repentance, and making their peace with God every *evening*, *Pſal.* 4.4.

Q *What are the hinderances whereby the people of God are deprived of their aſſurance and comfort?*

A They are partly on the Miniſters, and partly on the peoples behalfe.

Q *What*

Q. *What are the hinderances on the Miniſters behalfe?*

A 1 Not teaching, ſeldome teaching, cold, unprofitable and licentious teaching, and profane walking, *Jer.*23.1,10,11,14. *Iſa.*56.10,11.

Q. *What impediments are there on the behalf of the people?*

A On the behalf of wicked people;

1 A ſinfull *preſumption* upon the goodneſſe of their preſent eſtate, *John* 9.41.

2 An evill grounded *hope* upon Gods mercies, *Jude* verſe 4.

3 A reſting in a *bare profeſſion* of the Truth, *Tit.*1.16.

4 *Reſervation* of ſome beloved ſin, *Mark* 6.18.

Q. *What are the hinderances on the behalf of good people?*

A 1 *Ignorance* of the ſaving graces which God hath wrought in them.

2 *Concealment* of their doubts, without ſeeking reſolution, *Pſal.*32.3.

3 A ſole and overſtrict *faſtning* of their eyes upon their infirmities, *Eccleſ.*7.17.

4 *Diſcontentedneſſe* and unruly paſſions, *Numb.*11.5. *Exod.*14.12.

5 *Neglect* of the meanes, *John* 20. 24, 25.

6 An

6 An *unprofitable* Converſation, 2 *Pet.* 1. 10, 11.

Q *What is the dignity ariſing to Gods people in this life from their Juſtification?*

A Adoption, *Gal.* 5. 4. *John* 1. 12.

Q *What is Adoption?*

A It is that divine favour, whereby of being Strangers, we receive the dignity of being Sons and Daughters unto God, through Chriſt, *John* 1. 12. 1 *John* 3. 1, 2. 2 *Cor.* 6. 17, 18. *Eph.* 1. 5. *Gal.* 4. 5.

Q *What are the benefits of Adoption?*

A They are eight:

1 Spirituall *Sonſhip* with God, *Gal.* 4. 6.

2 *Heirſhip* with Chriſt, *Rom.* 8. 17.

3 *Peace* with the Father, *Rom.* 5. 1.

4 *Boldneſſe* in Prayer, *Rom.* 8. 15.

5 Chriſtian *liberty*, *John* 8. 32, 36.

6 *Dominion* over the creatures, *Tit.* 1. 15. 1 *Cor.* 3. 21, 22.

7 The *miniſtration* of the Angels, *Heb.* 1. 14.

8 Happy *iſſue* out of all affliction, *Rom.* 8. 28. 2 *Sam.* 7. 14.

Q *But are there not ſome doe perſwade themſelves of their juſtification and adoption, who notwithſtanding are therein altogether deluded by Satan?*

A Yes; ſome building upon a meere morall

morall, formall, temporary or partiall reformation, are so deluded by Satan, 2 Pet. 2. 20. 22. Mat. 12. 41. Mat. 25. 1.

Q. *How may we therefore discerne the infallible perswasion of the Spirit from the delusion of the flesh and Satan?*

A. Wherefore the true perswasion of the Spirit is:

1 There is a sound and comfortable *experience* of a holy and through change, carrying with it sorrow for, hatred against, and care to prevent all sin, and a hearty love to every good duty, *Psal.* 66. 16. *Psal.* 119. 104, 127, 128.

2 The whole life is *guided* and ordered according to the rule of Gods Word, *Gal.* 6. 16.

3 There is a holy, humble, conscionable and constant *attendance* upon, affectionate *entertainment* of, and an Universall and ready *subjection* to all the Ordinances of God, *Job* 23. 12. *Psal.* 84. 10. *Luke* 1. 6.

4 There is a constant *putting* up of strong, holy, filiall and fervent *supplications* unto the throne of grace, 1 *Thes.* 5. 17. *Psal.* 109. 4. *Rom.* 8. 15.

5 There is a ready *giving of liberty* to every grace of the Spirit, to have its perfect work in every faculty of the soule, and

action

action, and occasion of the life, *James* 1.4.

6 There is a circumspect, due and *tender regard* had to every one of Gods precepts, even the least as well as the greatest *Mat.*5.19. 1 *Thes.*5.22.

7 There is an *earnest desire*, an holy endeavour to attaine perfection in all goodnesse, *Phil.*3.12,13,14. *Psal.*14.7.

8 There is a blessed *striving*, and gracious progresse in true holinesse, even by that which in it self is the greatest hinderance, 2 *Cor.*12.7,8. *Rom.*8.28. *Ps.*119.71.

9 *Sathans assaults* doe usually attend it, that if it be possible, he may either take away, or weaken the comfort of the heart so perswaded, *Luke* 22.31. *Zech.*3.1,2,3.

10 There is usually the most sweet, blessed and *comfortable communion* between God and the sanctified soule so perswaded, when it is most *scorned*, and opposed by the world, *Acts* 13.50. *Psal.*27.10. *Psal.*119.54.

11 There is a holy care to *exalt* God in all, and above all, preferring his honour before our owne welfare, *Rom.* 9.3. 1, 2. 2 *Cor.*4.5.

12 At such times as we have *prayed*, most fervently *bewailed* our sin most heartily, and most deeply, *conversed* with God most fully, and most solemnly *maintained* our com-

communion with God most carefully, *frequented* his ordinances most preparedly; do we feel this perswasion of the Spirit most lively, and most comfortably, *Psal.*112.1,2 3,4. *Psal.*23.4. *Isa.*61.1,2,3.

Chap. VI.

Question.

What is the first step by which God proceedeth in the work of mans salvation?

A Sanctification.

Q What is Sanctification?

A It is a new quality of Holinesse wrought in Gods chosen and converted people, *Rom.*12.1,2. *Eph.*4.22. 2 *Cor.*4.16.

Q What are the parts of Sanctification?

A They are two:

I *Mortification*, which is a destroying of the power and dominion of sin, and in part, an abolishing of the same, *Col.*3.3,5.

II *Vivification*, which is a restoring of the image and life of God in man, *Col.*3.10.

Q How manifold is Sanctification?

A Inward and outward, *James* 4.8.

Q Wherein consisteth the inward Sanctification?

A 1 In the renewing of the *mind* whereby ignorance is removed, *Eph.*1.17. *Col.*3.10.

A In the change of the *will*, making it prompt and ready to ſhun evil, and chooſe good, *Rom.* 12. 1, 2.

3 In the renovation of the *affections*, whereby the ſanctified man is enabled to moderate his affections in a right manner, *Phil.* 4. 5.

Q *Wherein conſiſteth the outward Sanctification?*

A In making our whole outward converſation conformable to the law of God, *Pſal.* 26. 6.

Q *Who is the Authour of our Sanctification?*

A As the Father doth chooſe, and the Son redeem, ſo the holy Ghoſt doth moſt properly ſanctifie, 1 *Pet.* 1, 2. *Tit.* 3, 4, 5, *Matth.* 3. 11.

Q *Are we not able to ſanctifie and turne our ſelves to God?*

A No: Our Sanctification is the gift and work of God in Jeſus Chriſt; we can no more make our ſelves new creatures, then we could at firſt make our ſelves men *Acts* 5. 31. *Acts* 11. 14. *Pſal.* 51. 10. *Epheſ.* 2. 10.

Queſt. *If men cannot convert and ſanctifie themſelves, Why doth God command them ſo to doe?*

A I Be-

A 1 Because God created them able, and may justly require what he gave them *Eccles.7.29.*

2 Because God will thereby *shew* man what he ought to doe, *humble* him for his disability, *stir* him up to seek grace to doe it, and will by the word of exhortation, accompanied with his Spirit, *work* ability in his chosen, *Joh.5.25. Ro.1.16. Ro.7.8,9*

Q But when the Protestants teach that God doth by his Ministers exhort Reprobates, in whom he doth not intend to work Sanctification, do they not make God a deluder, and are not such exhortations in vain, as the Jesuites *affirme?*

A No: For

1 Hereby they are left without all excuse, *Rom.1.20. Ezek.2.5. John 15.22.*

2 Hereby they are *convinced* of their own vilenesse, and constrained to acknowledge Gods proceedings to be righteous, *Rom.7.7,8,9. Jer.3.25. Psal.64.8,9.*

3 Hereby through the contempt of it, they are the more *hardned*, and Gods Justice in their condemnation is the more glorious, 2 *Cor.2.15,16. Isa.6.9,10.*

4 Hereby they are *turned* from many abominations, though not effectually converted, 1 *Thes.1.9. Tit.2.11,12,13,15. Mark 6,20. 2 Pet.2.20.*

5 Here-

5 Hereby they are brought to *acknowledge* God and Jeſus Chriſt, and ſo the Goſpel is made in ſome ſort the more glorious, *Mat.* 24.14. 1 *Tim.* 2.4.

6 This is the *rule* of life and judgement propoſed unto all, *Gal.* 6.16, *Rom.* 3.27. *John* 12.48,49. *Rom.* 2.12,16.

7 It is not the *decree* of Reprobation doth diſable them, when God doth bid them, but their owne *infidelity* and corruption, *Mat.* 23.37.

8 God doth invite men by his *Miniſters*, and they know not but that the people ſo invited, are within the *decree* of Election, *Mat.* 23.37. *Luke* 19.41,42.

9 The invitations to be uſed are moſt *properly* to the Elect, *accidentally* to the *Reprobate* as they are mingled among the choſen, *Mat.* 13.24.

10 Hereby the ſtrength of their *love to ſinne*, and mighty bent and inclination of their hearts to what is evill, is the more fully diſcovered, *John* 18.40. *Mat.* 22.5,6.

11 Gods invitations and promiſes are upon *condition* of Faith and Repentance, *Mark* 16.15,16.

12 Hereby they are *ſuſtained* againſt deſpair, have *hope* of converſion during life, and are *encouraged* to attendance upon, and

to

to yeeld some conformity unto the ordinances of God, *Ezek.* 33. 11. 2 *Pet.* 3. 9. Thus we see God doth not delude, but for good cause invite even Reprobates unto repentance and holinesse, thereby sometimes in a great measure restraining them from running into the highest excesse of evill, though he communicate not renewing grace unto them.

Q. *How doth restraining and renewing grace differ?*

A. 1 They differ, first, in their *moving cause*; renewing grace commeth from the *speciall* love of God to man in Christ; restraining grace proceedeth from the *generall* and common mercy of God, *Psa.* 145. 2.

2 They differ in their *effects*; renewing grace *changeth* the nature of man, mortifieth and destroyeth sin, and makes man a new man throughout; restraining grace doth onely *inhibit* the exercise of sin, working no reall and gracious change in man 2 *Cor.* 5. 17, 18. 2 *Tim.* 3. 5.

3 They differ in their *extent*: restraining grace is *common* to good and bad; renewing grace is *proper* to the Elect effectually called; restraining grace *binds* some *one* faculty of the soule, or member of the body; renewing grace doth *work* upon, and sanctifie

ctifie the *whole* man; rrſtraining grace *withholdeth* man from *ſome* ſin; renewing grace *takes a man off* from the dominion and love of *all* ſin, and carries man to an equall obſervation of all Gods precepts; reſtraining grace keeps a man back from ſin for a *ſeaſon*; renewing grace ſo keeps man, that he returns *no more* to ſin, 1 *Theſ.* 5.23. 1 *John* 2.19. *Luke* 1.6. *Pſal.* 85.8.

Q *How doth that renewing and ſanctifying grace which is in Gods children, differ from that temporary grace which is in them that fall away?*

A I They differ in the *matter*: temporary grace is a previous *preparation* and diſpoſition to Sanctification: ſaving grace is a *holy ſeed* and gracious habit, differing one from the other, as an Embrio from a child; the one brings a man nigh, the other enters and ſtates a man in the kingdome of grace.

II. They differ in the *Cauſe efficient*: temporary grace is from the Word and Spirit, enlightning, exciting and *tenderly affecting* the ſoule: ſaving grace is from the Word and Spirit, mightily and *graciouſly changing* the whole man, transforming the heart, and turning the whole fabrick of the ſoule to God, 2 *Cor.* 5.17. *Acts* 15.19. 1 *Theſ.* 1.9.

III They differ in the *Subject*; temporary grace is found in the *unregenerate*; saving grace is onely found in a *regenerate* and renewed heart.

IV They differ in the *principles* from which they woek: saving grace worketh from principles of its *own*, carrying a man to God and godly duties, by a kind of natureall, inward, sweet and pleasing propensity and willingnesse, making a man apt and ready to doe every good duty, *Psal.*119.14,16,20,31,35. *Exe.*36.27. *Cant.* 1.4. *Ps.*110.3. But temporary grace works from forrein and *false principles*, as self-love civill policy, satans delusions, &c. 2 *Cor.*11. 13,14,15. *Rom.*16.18. *Phil.*1.15,16. 2 *Pet.* 15.15. 1 *Pet.*5.2.

V. They differ in six effects:

First, saving grace causeth a man to find a spirituall, sweet and full *complacency* in God, in Christ and holy duties; temporary grace ministers only a weak, transitory and *flitting* taste in the things of God, it never makes God and Christ the Paradise and only joy of the soul, *Psal.*73.25. *Psal.* 19.10. *Psal.*119.72,97,103. *John* 4.34,35. *Heb.*6.5. *John* 5.35.

2 Saving grace puts a man upon the duties of godlinesse, out of an obedient, sincere

cere and *honest heart*, causing a man to serve God for God himselfe: temporary grace puts a man upon the duties of godlinesse, from extrinsicall, sinister & *wrong ends* and grouds, 2*Cor*.5.14.*Isa*.38.3.2 *Chr*.31.20,21 *Ps*.15.2.2*Chr*.25.2.2 *Ki*.10.15.*Mat*.6.1,2,5

3 Saving grace causeth a man to follow the Lord *fully*, in the destruction of all sin, in the observation of all Gods precepts, and in the application of the whole man to godly duties; temporary grace causeth a man to follow the Lord *unevenly* haltingly and by halves, *Numb*. 32.12. *Josh*.14.8. 1 *Kings* 11. 4,6. *Luke* 9.33,34. *Revel*. 14.4. *Mark* 6.20. *John* 2.6.*Hos*.7.8.

4 Saving grace makes a man *humble*, contrite and broken hearted, it emptieth him wholly of himselfe, and carries him altogether out of himselfe unto Christ: temporary grace *leaves a man in himself*, remaining still guilty of self-opinion and self-seeking, *Isa*.57.15,16. *Isa*.61.2,3.*Isa*.66.2. 1 *Pet*.5.5. *Mat*.23.5.

5 Saving grace carries a man to Christ, *for Christ*, for the beauties and perfections which he sees in Christ; it puts him upon holy duties, to gaine grace that he may serve Christ; temporary grace leads a man to Christ for *self-respects*, that he may ob-

taine salvation by Christ, *Heb.*12.29. *Cant.* 5.10. *John* 6.26. *Mat.*19.16.

6 Saving grace disposeth the heart to the performance of holy duties in a *holy, humble, serious and reverent manner*, causing man to see matter of soul-abasement in his best service: temporary grace puts man upon the performance of holy duties, in a *customary, formall, perfunctory or vain-glorious manner*. *Psal.*2.10. *Psal.*5.7. *Psal.*89.7. *Hos.*3.3. *Job* 42.6. *Mat.*13. 5.2 *Sam.*6.6,7. *Eccles.*5.1, 2. 2 *Tim.*3.5.

VI They differ in their *duration*: saving grace enables a man to hold out unto the end, and to ascend to more perfection; temporary grace fainteth, faileth and comes to nothing after a season, *Job* 27.9. *Isa.*40.29,30,31. *Psal.*84.7. *John* 4.14. *John* 5.35. *Mat.*13.21,22.

Q *Is sanctification and renewing grace absolutely needfull unto salvation?*

A Yes, for hereunto wa are *chosen*, hereby we are *like* God, and without this we cannot *enter* into the Kingdome of God, *Eph.*1.4.2 *Thes.*2.1.3.1 *Pet.*1.3. *Eph.*2.13. *Joh.* 13.5.

Q *What are the conditions of our Sanctification?*

A 1 It is true and sound, *Josh* 24.14. *Psal.* 32.2. 2 In-

2 Inward as well as outward, *Pſal.* 51.6. *John* 4.24. *James* 4.8. *Rom.* 12.1,2.

3 Univerſall, extending to the faculties of the ſoule, and members of the body, 1 *Theſ.* 5.23. *Luke* 1.6. *Rom.* 6.13. *John* 13.7. *Ezek.* 18.30,31.

4 It doth ſtill grow, and yet in this life it is not perfect, *Phil.* 3.12, 13. 1 *Pet.* 2.2. 1 *Theſ.* 4. 1 *John* 13.8. *Iſa.* 64.6. 1 *John* 1.8.

5 It is conſtant, and doth not vaniſh, *Pſal.* 84.7. *Iſa.* 40.31.

Q *Is our Sanctification ſo ſure and conſtant, that we can never loſe it?*

A We may loſe ſome *degrees* of it, but the *ſeed* of grace ſtill remaineth, and Gods renewed Image is never wholly aboliſhed, 1 *John* 3.9.

Q *How may this appeare?*

A 1 The Fathers *Election* is infallible, 2 *Tim.* 2.19. *Rom.* 8.30. *Mat.* 24.24.

2 The Sons *Redemption* ſhall not be fruſtrated, *Heb.* 2.14. *Iſa.* 42.7. *Rev.* 3.7. *Mat.* 1.11. *Tit.* 2.14.

3 The Spirit in *application* of the benefits of Chriſts paſſion is irreſiſtable and unchangeable, *Ezek.* 36.25,26,27,28,29. *Iſa.* 11.6. *Luke* 3.5. *John* 16.13. *Eph.* 1.13,14.

4 The *Regeneration* of Gods people is perpetuall, 1 *Pet.* 1.2,3. 1 *Joh.* 3.9. *Ja.* 1.21. *Joh.* 1.14.

5 The *love* of God to his choſen is unchangeable, *John* 13.1. *Jer.*31.3. *Isa.*54.4, 5,6,7,8,10.

6 Their union with their Head Chriſt Jeſus is unſeperable, *John* 10.28. *Mat.*16. 18. *Hoſ.*2.19.

7 The *Kingdom* and dominion of Chriſt within them is invincible, *Luke* 1.33. *Luke* 21.22. *Dan.*2.44. *Pſal.*2,9.

8 The *power* by which they are ſupported is inconquerable, 1 *Pet.*1.4,5. *Pſal.*37.24 1 *Cor.*1.8,9.

9 No *temptation* ſhall utterly caſt them downe, 1 *Cor.*10.13. *Mat.*8.26.

10 The *interceſſion* of Chriſt is unceſſant and effectuall in the behalf of his choſen people, *John* 17.11. *John* 16.23. *Rom.*8.34. *Heb.*9.24.

11 The *ſaving gifts* and graces of Gods Spirit are without repentance, *Rom.*11.29. *Jer.*32.40,41.

12 All ſhall turne for the *beſt* to them that love God, *Rom.*8.28.

Q *How doth Sanctification and Juſtification differ?*

A 1 Juſtification is a *relative* change of the Beleevers eſtate, being reputed righteous by the imputation of the Righteouſneſſe of Chriſt, *Rom.*4.5. Sanctification is

a

a *reall* change of a man from the filthineſſe of ſin into the image of God, *Epheſ.* 4. 22, 23, 24.

2 Juſtification is an *abſolution* of the ſinner from the guilt of ſin and death; but Sanctification is an *alteration* of the qualities from evill to good; the former freeth the Beleever from the guilt; the latter from the filthineſſe and ſpot of ſin, *Rom.* 8. 1, 2. 2 *Cor.* 5. 17, 18.

3 Juſtification is the *righteouſneſſe* of Chriſt *imputed* to us: Sanctification is a *righteouſneſſe inherent*, and wrought in us, *Rom.* 10. 3, 4. *Rom.* 8. 10.

4 Juſtication is from the *merit* of Chriſt, but Sanctification is from the *efficacy* of Chriſts death and reſurrection, *Eph.* 1. 19. *Eph.* 2. 1.

5 Juſtification is before Sanctification in order of *nature*, but not in *time*, 2 *Cor.* 7. 1. *Rom.* 8. 30.

6 Sanctification is in our *apprehenſion* and feeling before Juſtification; as we ſee the light before we can ſee the Sun, 1 *Cor.* 6. 11.

7 Juſtification, conſiſting in the imputation of Chriſts righteouſneſſe, is *perfect the firſt moment*; but Sanctification being a reall change, is wrought *by degrees*, 2 *Cor.* 3. 18.

8 Justification is required, as the *cause* of of our salvation; Sanctification as a *condition* or quality, fitting us for heaven; the former is called the *cause* of reigning, the latter the *way* to the Kingdom, *Rom.* 6. 22, 23.

Q *What is the rule of our Sanctification?*

A The whole Word of God, both the Law and the Gospell, *Isa.* 8. 20. *Psal.* 119. 9. 2 *Tim.* 1. 15. *Job* 22. 22. *John* 17. 17.

Q *Hath not Christ by his obedience delivered us from the Law?*

A Christ hath delivered all true Beleevers from the rigor, curse and coaction of the Law, and from seeking Justification by the Law, *Gal.* 3. 10, 11, 12, 13. *Rom.* 10. 4. *James* 1. 25. *James* 2. 12.

Q *If Christ hath thus satisfied the Law, how are Beleevers yet bound to the Law?*

A Beleevers are tyed to the Law, as to a *rule* of life, a *meanes* to informe them in Gods worship, to bring them to the knowledge & acknowledgement of sin, to humble them for their sin, to drive them out of themselves unto Christ, to make them vigilant over their hearts, and earnest to encrease in grace, *Jam.* 2. 8. *Rom.* 7. 7, 8, 9 *Rom.* 3. 20. 1 *John* 2. 3. 2 *Epist. John verse* 4, 5, 6.

Q *Can you make it further evident, that the Law is a rule of life to Beleevers?*

A It

A 1 It was a Rule of life to *Adam* before the fall, to beleeving *Jewes* and *Patriarks* after the fall, before the comming of Christ, therefore also to beleeving Christians after Christs comming.

2 It was a Rule of morall obedience unto *Christ*, therefore also to Christs members.

3 It is most consonant unto the *nature* of God, as being most holy, wise, just, immutable.

4 It teacheth perfect *conformity* between God and the reasonable creature.

5 This and no other rule doth fully *discover* the sin and crookednesse of mens hearts and lives.

6 This Law was solemnly delivered, and never repealed, for Christ came not to destroy, but to fulfill the Law.

7 Our actions cannot be of *faith*, if they be not done in obedience to some *Word* of God, other Word then this we have not.

8 The Law is not significative, but signified by the Ceremonials and Judicials.

9 Christ and his Apostles taught it as a Rule of life.

10 According to this Word shall the last sentence be pronounced, therefore by this must our life be ruled.

Q. *What manner of obedience doe Beleevers yeeld unto the Law?*

A A willing and ready obedience, their hearts being inclined and disposed thereunto by the work of Gods Spirit, *Ps.*110. 3. 1 *John* 5.3. *Exod.*35.5,21,22.29.

Q. *How can the Gospell, together with the Law, be a Rule of our Sanctification, since it is the Rule of our Justification?*

A It is the rule of Justification, as it teacheth, and offereth life and salvation *by faith* in Christ; but it is a rule of Sanctification, as it teacheth us to worship God in Christ, to be *thankefull* unto God for giving Christ, and as it worketh that faith which purifieth the heart, and enableth us to walk in well-pleasing before the Lord, *John* 14.1. *John* 5.23. 1 *Th.*5.18. *Acts* 15.9. *Heb.*11.6.

Q. *How doth the Law and the Gospell differ?*

A 1 The Law sheweth what we ought to be, and what we are bound to doe; but the Gospell sheweth us how we may become such as the Law requireth us to be, *Mat.*18.28. *Luke* 10.28. *Mark* 5.36.

2 The Law was ingraffed in the mind of man at the Creation, and is yet known in part by corrupted *nature*; but the Gospell is not all known by nature, but by reve-

revelation from God, *Rom.* 1.18. *Rom.* 2.15. *Mat.* 11.27. *John* 1.18.

3 The Law promiseth life and salvation upon condition of our *owne* proper and perfect obedience; but the Gospel promiseth life upon condition of the righteousnesse of Christ, applyed by faith, *Mat.* 19. 17. *Mark* 16.16.

4 The Law must be preached to the *obstinate*, 1 *Tim.* 1. 9, 10. the Gospell to the *penitent* and broken-hearted, *Mat.* 11.28.

5 The Law breedeth *terrour*, the Gospel *faith* and repentance, 2 *Cor.* 3.7. *Tit.* 2.11

6 The Law threatneth punishment to all that doe not *perfectly obey* the whole Law, the Gospel threatneth destruction to all that do not *repent* and beleeve in Christ *Luke* 13.3,5.

Q *Wherein doe the Law and Gospell agree?*

A 1 In their *Author*; one and the same God is *Author* of both, 2 *Pet.* 1.20,21. *Gen.* 3.15.

2 In their *end* and scope; both the Law and the gospell require spirituall and perfect Righteousnesse; the one to be performed *by* us, the other to be performed of Christ *for* us, and imputed to us, *Rom.* 8. 3,4.

Q *Doth not the Gospell abolish the Law, and make it of no use?*

A No:

A No: but doth rather eſtabliſh the Law: For,

1 The Goſpell preacheth and propoſeth *Chriſt*, who is the *end* of the Law for righteouſneſſe, *Rom.* 10.4.

2 The Goſpell teacheth us to beleeve in Chriſt *crucified* for our ſins, and ſo all the threatnings of the moral, and ſhadows of the Ceremonial Law are *confirmed*, 1 *Cor.* 1.23. 1 *Cor.* 2.2.

3 The Goſpell teacheth us that we are *ſinners* in our ſelves, and unjuſt in the ſight of God, and ſo approveth the ſentence of the Law, *Rom.* 5.6,8,9,10,11.

4 The Goſpell teacheth us that we are *juſtified* before God, but by that *perfect righteouſneſſe* which the Law requireth, even the Righteouſneſſe of Chriſt imputed, *Phil.* 3.9.

5 The Goſpell perſwadeth, moveth and guideth men in the whole courſe of their converſation, as much as in them is, to yeeld that *obedience* unto God which the Law requireth, 1 *Tim.* 1.5. 1 *John* 2.7. 1 *John* 3.22.

Q. Is the Goſpell under the New, the ſame with that under the Old Teſtament?

A It is the ſame in regard of the ſubſtance, *Gen.* 3.15. *Rev.* 13.8.

Q. How

Q. *How doth the Goſpel under the New, differ from the Goſpel under the old Teſtament?*

A 1 In regard of *time*; under the Old Teſtament, the Goſpell taught us to beleeve in Chriſt to come; under the New, it teacheth us to beleeve in Chriſt already come, *Heb.*10.1. 1 *John* 5.20. *John* 1.14.

2 In regard of *cleerneſſe*; the doctrine of ſalvation by Chriſt, is more diſtinct and expreſſe under the New, then under the Old Teſtament, now no longer taught by obſcure ſhadowes, but by apparent arguments, 2 *Cor.*3.18. *Mat.*11.11.

3 In regard of Chriſtian *liberty*; the yoak of the ceremonial law, as it was a *hand writing* againſt ſinners, a *prohibition* of things in their own nature indifferent, a veile to the Truth, a *burden* and ſervitude to the obſervers of it, is now removed under the New Teſtament, *Col.*2.14,17. *Gal.*5.1.

4 In regard of the large *effuſion* of the Spirit, the application of the Spirit is more effectuall, and the gifts of the Spirit are more perfect under the New, then they were ordinarily under the Old Teſtament, 2 *Cor.*3.6,18. *John* 17.39.

5 In regard of the *Extent* of it, under the Old Teſtament it was confined to one people only, now it is extended to all nations, *Mat.*28.19,20.

6 In

A No: but doth rather eſtabliſh the Law: For,

1 The Goſpell preacheth and propoſeth *Chriſt*, who is the *end* of the Law for righteouſneſſe, *Rom.* 10.4.

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3 The Goſpell teacheth us that we are *ſinners* in our ſelves, and unjuſt in the ſight of God, and ſo approveth the ſentence of the Law, *Rom.* 5.6,8,9,10,11.

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5 The Goſpell perſwadeth, moveth and guideth men in the whole courſe of their converſation, as much as in them is, to yeeld that *obedience* unto God which the Law requireth, 1 *Tim.* 1.5. 1 *John* 2.7. 1 *John* 3.22.

Q. Is the Goſpell under the New, the ſame with that under the Old Teſtament?

A It is the ſame in regard of the ſubſtance, *Gen.* 3.15. *Rev.* 13.8.

Q. How

Q. *How doth the Gospel under the New, differ from the Gospel under the old Testament?*

A 1 In regard of *time*; under the Old Testament, the Gospell taught us to beleeve in Christ to come; under the New, it teacheth us to beleeve in Christ already come, *Heb.*10.1. 1 *John* 5.20. *John* 1.14.

2 In regard of *cleerneſſe*; the doctrine of ſalvation by Christ, is more diſtinct and expreſſe under the New, then under the Old Teſtament, now no longer taught by obſcure ſhadowes, but by apparent arguments, 2 *Cor.*3.18. *Mat.*11.11.

3 In regard of Chriſtian *liberty*; the yoak of the ceremonial law, as it was a *hand writing* againſt ſinners, a *prohibition* of things in their own nature indifferent, a veile to the Truth, a *burden* and ſervitude to the obſervers of it, is now removed under the New Teſtament, *Col.*2.14,17. *Gal.*5.1.

4 In regard of the large *effuſion* of the Spirit, the application of the Spirit is more effectuall, and the gifts of the Spirit are more perfect under the New, then they were ordinarily under the Old Teſtament, 2 *Cor.*3.6,18. *John* 17.39.

5 In regard of the *Extent* of it, under the Old Teſtament it was confined to one people only, now it is extended to all nations, *Mat.*28.19,20.

6 In

6 In regard of *duration*, the Administration of life under the New Testament, is perfect, and therefore shall continue such till the consummation of the Church, 2 *Cor.*3.11. *Eph.*4.13.

Q *Having shewed me how the Gospell with the Law, is a rule of Sanctification; tell me now what Law it is, that together with the Gospell is a rule of our Sanctification?*

A Neither the Ceremoniall nor Judiciall, but the Morall Law, *Deut.*4.13. *Deut.* 10.4. *Pro.*3.1. *Job* 22.22.

Q *How doth the Morall Law direct us in the duties of Sanctification?*

A By teaching us *piety* towards God, and *humanity* towards man, *Mat.*22.37.39.

Q *How doth the Morall Law teach us piety towards God?*

A 1 By informing us in the naturall worship of God; set down in the first precept, teaching us, That *God is to be beleeved hoped in, loved, invocated, heard and obeyed in all things.*

2 By informing us in the *appointed worship* of God, set downe in the second precept, teaching us to manifest and shew forth faith, hope and love to Godward, by worshipping him wholly, and onely according to his revealed will, with our

out addition or diminution.

3 By informing us in the *manner* of his worship, set downe in the third precept, teaching us to use every thing belonging to the Word of God, in such sort as is most agreeable to the Divine Majesty.

4 By informing us in the dedication of a *set and solemne time*, one day in seven, to holy and Religious exercises, set down in the fourth precept.

Q *How doth the Morall Law teach us humanity to our Neighbour?*

A 1 By informing us in the mutuall duties of *Superiours* and *Inferiours*, in the fift precept.

2 By shewing us that we ought not to hurt our Neighbour in *deed*, in *word*, nor *thought*.

First, not in *deed*, in respect of his *person*, in the sixt precept; in respect of *his and our owne* person, in the seventh precept; in respect of his *goods* in the eight precept.

II Not in *word*, in respect of his *good name* in the ninth precept.

III Not in *thought*, neither conceiving nor willing any thing repugnant to our Neighbours good, in the tenth precept.

Q *What means must we use to get this Sanctification wrought and encreased?*

A 1 Con-

A 1 Conſcionable and frequent *attendance* upon Gods Word preached, *Acts* 8. 7. 2 *Cor.* 10. 5. *John* 17. 17.

2 Reverent, circumſpect and carefull *reading* of Gods Word and other holy books, *Deut.* 7. 19. *Acts* 8. 28.

3 Holy and ſerious *meditation* upon the Nature, Attributes, Word and Works of God, *Joſh.* 1. 8. *Pſal.* 1. 1, 2.

4 Carefull *preparation* unto, and frequent uſe of the Sacraments, 1 *Cor.* 11. 28.

5 Holy Communion and *Conference* with Gods people, *Heb.* 10. 24, 25.

6 Underſtanding, holy, humble, hearty, fervent, faithfull and conſtant *prayer*, 1 *Cor.* 14. 15. *Eccleſ.* 5. 1. *James* 5. 16. *Pſal* 145. 18, 19. *James* 1. 6. 1 *Theſ.* 5. 17.

Q. What directions muſt we obſerve for the ordering of our ſelves in a ſanctified manner?

A The directions which in this behalf muſt be uſed; reſpect, 1 God, 2 Man.

Q. What are the directions which have reſpect unto God?

A 1 You muſt *know* and love God for himſelfe, and above all things, *Jer.* 9. 23. *Mark* 12. 33. *Pſal.* 73. 25.

2 You muſt *eſteem* and delight in Chriſt Jeſus above all creatures, *Ph.* 3. 8, *Cant.* 5. 10

3 You muſt *delight* and walk in all the

wayes

wayes of God, *Eccleſ.* 12. 13. *Deut.* 4. 5.

4 You muſt *obey* and pleaſe God, whoſoever be offended, *Acts* 4.19. *Pro.*16.7.

5 You muſt *ſeek his honour*, more then your ſpirituall or bodily welfare, *Rom.* 9. 2,3. *Luke* 14.26.

6 You muſt deſire and *ſeek ſpiritual things* the pardon of ſin, the ſenſe of Gods love, the grace of the Spirit, before all things in the world, *Pſal.*4.6. *Pſal.*51.8. *Mat.*6.33.

Q *What are the directions which reſpect man?*

A They reſpect either man *himſelfe* or *others.*

Q *What are they which reſpect a man himſelfe?*

A They reſpect either the *inward* or the *outward* man.

Q *What are they which reſpect the inward man?*

A They reſpect, 1 The mind; 2 The thoughts; 3 The will; 4 The affections; 5 The conſcience.

Q *What are the directions wich reſpect the mind?*

A 1 It muſt be furniſhed with *neceſſary*, profitable, holy and humble *knowledge*, 1 *Cor.*2.2. *Phil.*1.9. *James* 3.17.

2 It muſt be adorned with *heavenlineſſe*, and

and holineſſe, *Phil.* 3. 19,20. *Epheſ.*4.23.

2 With *humility*, ſobriety, ſhamefaſtneſſe and unity, 1 *Pet.*3.4,5. *Col.*3.12.

Q *What directions reſpect the thoughts?*

A 1 You muſt *watch* over them with all diligence, *Prov.*4.23.

2 You muſt beſtow your firſt thoughts about God and the things of God, *Pſ.*5.3.

3 Evil thoughts muſt be *called* into queſtion, and *reſiſted* in the firſt originall, *Jer.* 4.14.

4 Conſcience muſt be *made* of the leaſt evill thought, and the heart *humbled* for it, *Prov.*24.9.

5 No more thoughts muſt be *beſtowed* about the world then are neceſſary, *Matth.* 6.31.

6 Your thoughts of God muſt be *holy* and reverent, of your ſelfe *humble*, and of ſin with deteſtation, *Pſal.* 5.7. *Pſal.*77.3. *Phil.*2.3. *Pſal.*119.113.

Q *What are the directions which reſpect the Will?*

A 1 The will muſt not be led by *affection*, but by a *judgement* rightly informed out of Gods Word, *Prov.*4.27. *Pſal.*119.33,34.

2 The will muſt *chooſe* the beſt things, 1 *Cor.*12.31.

3 Gods Will *revealing* what we ſhall know,

know, *determining* what we ſhall be, *preſcribing* what we ſhall doe, and *diſpoſing* what ſhall befall us, muſt be the rule wherein our wils reſt, and whereunto they muſt ſubmit, as to a rule moſt holy, wiſe, juſt and good, *Mat.* 6. 10. *Mat.* 26. 39. 1 *Sam.* 3. 18.

Q. *What are the directions which reſpect the conſcience?*

A 1 We muſt be carefull to *keepe* our ſelves from an impure, blind, doubtfull, ſuperſtitious, ſeared and accuſing conſcience, *Tit.* 1. 15. *Eph.* 4. 19. *Rom.* 14. 5, 23. *Col.* 2. 21. 1 *Tim.* 4. 2. *Tit.* 3, 11.

2 We muſt *get*, and carefully keep a good pure and peaceable conſcience in al things *Acts* 23. 1. *Acts* 24. 16. *Heb.* 9. 14. 2 *Tim.* 1. 3.

Q. *What are the directions which reſpect the affections?*

A 1 Our affections muſt be faſtned *on God* with moſt joy and delight, *Pſal.* 37. 4.

2 We muſt affect all things *in and for God*, nothing like, above, or againſt God, 1 *Cor.* 7. 29, 30, 31, 39. *Mat.* 10. 37.

3 We muſt labour to taſte and be affected with the *ſweetneſſe and goodneſſe of God* in all his creatures and actions, *Pſal.* 34. 8.

4 Our affections muſt be more frequently, ſtrongly and delightfully faſtned

on

on *things heavenly* then earthly, *Col.*3.1,2.

5 We must have a *fellow-feeling* of the miseries of our afflicted brethren, *Heb.*13.2

6 We must be more affected with the *vileneſſe* of a sin, then with the *punishment* belonging to the same, *Rom.*7.24.

Q. *What rules doe respect the outward man?*

A They respect, 1 Our calling, 2 Our estates, 3 Our speeches, 4 Our actions.

Q. *What rules respect our callings?*

A 1 Every man must have a *particular* calling, *Gen.*2.15. *Gen.*3.19.

2 Every man must make choice of such a calling as is *lawfull*, honest, most convenient and best for the glory of God, his own and others good, *Eph.*4.28.

3 Every man must labour to see that God doth *set* him in that calling which he doth undertake, 1 *Cor.*7.17.

4 He must *exercise* himselfe in his calling religiously, faithfully, conscionably, diligently and constantly, *Col.*3.22.

5 The works of every mans calling must be *profitable* and necessary, and properly appertaining to his own, and not to another mans calling, 1 *Thes.*4.11.

6 The works of our particular, must *receive direction* from our generall calling, and also give place thereunto, *Col.*3.17.

Q. *What*

Q. *What rules respect our estates?*

A 1 We must be *contented* in every estate, and account that estate best wherein God doth set us, *Phil.*4.11. *Iohn* 2.10.

2 *Prepare* for afflictions before they come, and remember that Gods favour may be enjoyed in trouble, as well as in peace, *Iohn* 6.1, 2. *Isa.* 49.14,15. *Heb.* 12.7.

3 Seek not so much to be delivered out of affliction, as for *patience* to bear it, *grace* to make a good use of it, and to draw the neerer to God by it, *Isa.* 28.16. *Psal.*40.1. *Micah* 7.9.

4 Make not affliction the more burthensome by *impatience*, but let the greatnesse of the affliction breed the more diligent *search* and thorough hatred of the sinne which did procure it, *Exod.* 14.11. *Lam.*3.39,40.

5 In prosperity be *not lifted* up, but think of a change, be *jealous* of thy self, desire God to keep thee, be *mindfull* of the affliction of thy Brethren, and rejoyce not in thine owne peace, while the Church of God is in trouble, *Deut.* 8.14. *Rom.*12.15. *Amos* 6.1,2,3,6.

Q. *What rules respect our speeches?*

A 1 They must be *gracious*, sincere, wise,

wiſe, of the beſt things, moderate, gentle, ſeaſonable, profitable, and tending to edification, 1 *Pet.*4.11. *Eph.*4.29. *Pſal.*15.2. *Col.*4.6. *Pſal.*37.30,31. *Deut.*32.2. *Eph.*4.31. *Prov.*15.25. *Pſal.*37.29.

2 Our ſpeech of God, his Word and Works, muſt be *with humility*, reverence, fear and gravity, *Levit.*19.12.

3 Our ſpeech of others muſt be *good* and charitable, never ſpeaking the evill we know by them, but with grief, and that upon a neceſſary occaſion and lawful calling, *Tit.*3.2.

4 Our ſpeech to our Superiours muſt be *reverent*, to our equals and inferiours *plaine*, mild, loving and faithfull, *Lev.*19.17

5 Our ſpeech of our ſelves muſt be *modeſt* and humble, without any ſhew of oſtentation, *Prov.*27.2.

6 Our ſpeech of things heavenly muſt be with more *frequency*, earneſtneſſe, circumſpection, comfort and delight, then of things earthly, *Deut.*6.6.

Q *What Rules reſpect our actions?*

A 1 The *matter*, circumſtances and ends of our actions muſt be good, *Phil.*4.8.

2 We muſt doe all things in a humble, ſincere and loving *manner*, according to our ability, 1 *Cor.*16.14. 2 *Cor.*9.5,6,7. 2 *Cor.* 1.13.

3 We

3 We must doe good to the soule and body, but to the *souls* of men chiefly, *Mat.* 6. 33. *Levit.* 19. 17. *James* 5. 19, 20. *Luke* 22. 32.

Q. *What directions respect our eating and drinking?*

A 1 Our meat and drink must be *sanctified* by the Word of God and Prayer, 1 *Tim.* 4. 4. 5.

2 We must feed upon that which is *our owne*, and that according to our necessity and with moderate delight, *Eph.* 4. 28. *Pro.* 5. 15.

3 We must be *affected with Gods goodnesse* in the creatures, our mouths must speak of his bounty and loving kindnesse, and not be unmindfull of the wants of others, *Deut.* 12. 7. *Neh.* 8. 10.

Q. *What Rules respect our Recreation?*

A 1 The *matter* of our Recreation must be neither of things holy, nor of things profane, but of things indifferent, free from scandall and ill report, *Eph.* 5. 35.

2 The *persons* using them must be sanctified, weary with lawfull labour, and must pray for a blessing upon their Recreations, 1 *Tim.* 4. 4, 5. *Tit.* 1. 15.

3 They must be used *moderately*, watchfully, wisely, Christianly and seasonably,

bly, *Phil.* 4. 5. *Eccles.* 3. 1, 2, 3, 4.

4 You must use them to *Gods glory*, the refreshing of your weary body, preservation of health, the making of you more fit for your calling and the duties of Sanctification, 1 *Cor.* 10. 30, 31.

Q *What directions respect our Apparell?*

A 1 The *matter* of our apparell, must not be overcostly, but according to our ability, calling, condition of life and example of the graver sort of people, 1 *Pet.* 4. 5. *Gen.* 3. 21.

2 The *fashion* of our apparell must not be strange, garish, wantan, but according to the custome of the Country, and more sober sort of people, amongst whom we live, *Zeph.* 1. 8. *Tit.* 2. 3. *Rom.* 12. 2.

3 We must weare *such apparell* as may serve for health, decency and distinction, *Gen.* 3. 21. *Hag.* 1. 6. *Deut.* 22. 5.

4 The *putting on* of our apparell must mind us of the losse of our innocency, of the putting on of Christ, and of the girding up of the loyns of our mind: and the *putting off* of our apparell, must mind us of puting off our sins by regeneration, & putting off our flesh by a bodily dissolution, *Rom.* 13. 14. *Col.* 3. 21. 1 *Pet.* 1. 13. *Eph.* 4. 23, 24. 2 *Pet.* 1. 14.

Q *What*

Q. *What rules must we observe in company?*

A. 1 We must endeavour so much as may be, to have *peace* with all men, but *familiarity* onely with good men, *Rom.*12.18. *Heb.*12.14. *Psal.*101.4.

2 We must labour *to doe good*, or receive good in every company, *Heb.*10.24.

3 Our conversation must be such among all men, as doth *beseem* the Gospell, *Phil.* 1.27.

4 We must shew forth both *piety and humanity* in our company, 1*Pe.*2.17. 1*Pe.*3.8.

5 All *needlesse* society with wicked men must be avoided, *Eph.*5.7,8.

6 When we have necessary occasion of conversing with carnall people, we must walk *blamelesly* and wisely towards them, *Mat.*10.16.

7 We must love all good men with a *christian* and singular affection, we must maintaine a *holy fellowship* with them, we must walk in all *faithfulnesse* towards them and *bear* their burden in the time of *affliction*, *submitting* our selves to their godly counsell, *following* their gracious example, *reverencing* the strong in grace, and giving no offence to the weak, *Psa.*16.3. *Gal.* 6.1. *Rom.*14.1. *Heb.*10.24,25. *Psal.*145. 1 *Cor.*11.1.

8 We must love our choice and godly friend *dearly*, freely, sincerely and constantly, give him wholesome and hearty counsell, communicate our secrets to him and extend our love to his posterity, 2 *Sam.*1.26. 2 *Sam.*9.1.

Q *What motives are there inducing us thus to order our conversation?*

*A.*1 The strict charge which God hath given us, 2 *Pet.*1.10.

2 The *end* of our Redemption, *Tit.*2.14

3 The *honour* of our calling, *Ephes.*1.11.

4 The *beautifying* of the Gospel, *Ph.*1.27

5 The giving of good *example* to other people, *Mat.*5.16.

6 The singular *Priviledges* attending true Sanctification, 1 *Tim.*4.8.

CHAP. VII.

Question.

WHat is the *sixth* step by which God doth proceed in the work of mans salvation?

A. Glorification, *Rom.*8.30. 1 *Thes.*2.12.

Q *How may we be assured that there is a future estate of glory and happinesse reserved for the righteous?*

*A.*1 By the cleer and plentifull testimony of the Scriptures, *Job* 9.25,26. *Dan.*12.2. *Isa.*25.6 7,8. *Isa.*57.2. *John* 5.29. *Mat.*13.43. *Mat.*19.29, &c.

2 By

2 By the *perfection* of Gods goodneſſe, he is the chiefeſt good, and will moſt perfectly communicate himſelfe unto his beloved, *Pſal.* 36.9.

3 By the *equity* of his Juſtice, rendring to all men according to their doings, 2 *Theſ.* 1.7. 2 *Tim.* 4.8.

4 By the *Truth* of Gods promiſe, *Tit.* 1.2 1 *John* 2.25.

5 By the *power* of God to accompliſh his purpoſe, *John* 10.28,29.

6 By the *dignity* of Chriſts merit, *Heb.* 7.25.

7 By the *efficacy* of Chriſts *intercession*, *Rom.* 8.24.

8 By the *Termes of Relation* betweene Chriſt and his people; he is an eternall King, Husband and Saviour, and therefore muſt needs have Subjects, a Spouſe and a ſaved people, which ſhall live in glory for ever.

Q. *What is Glorification?*

A. It is the bleſſed eſtate of Gods people after this life, wherein they ſhall have freedome from all ſin and miſery, and the full perfection of grace and glory both in ſoule and body, *Eph.* 5.27. *Iſa.* 60.21. 1 *Cor.* 13.10,11,12. *Revel.* 21.4,5.

Q. *Who is the Author or cauſe efficient of this*

Glorification and blessed estate of Gods people?

A God of his free grace and favour in Christ, *Rom.* 6. 23. and that,

1 In regard of *preparation*, *Mat.* 25. 34. *Isa.* 64. 4.

2 In regard of *Stipulation*, God hath promised life eternall, 1 *John* 2. 25.

3 In regard of *Acquisition*, God gave Christ to purchase this glory for us, *John* 3. 16.

4 In regard of *Application*, God by the Ministery of his Word and Spirit, *revealing* this life eternall to them, *working* faith in their hearts to believe it, and *sealing* up the same unto their soules, *Rom.* 8. 16, 17. *Eph.* 1. 14. *Eph.* 4. 30. Secondly, at the day of their death by the Ministery of his Angels carrying them into *Abrahams* bosome, *Luke* 16. 22. Thirdly, in the last day by Jesus Christ, *raising* their bodies again to a glorious estate, *John* 5. 29.

5 In regard of *Conservation* and continuance, God will for ever continue them in that glorious condition, *Rev.* 3. 12. *Luke* 20. 36.

Q. *What doth the name of that blessednesse or glorification which the people of God shall have in the next life comprise under it?*

A A compleat *presence* of all good.

2 An utter *absence* of all evill.

3 An *unchangeableneſſe* of felicity.

4 A perfect *fruition* of God himſelfe, who is the bleſſednesse of his ſervants.

5 A moſt *cleer knowledge* of their glory, in regard of the underſtanding, *fervent love* to it in regard of the will, a comfortable and abundant *acquieſcence* in it in regard of the affection of the heart, from whence ariſeth joy unſpeakable and glorious in the ſouls of Gods ſervants.

Q. *In what order, or by what degrees doth God bring men to this glorious eſtate after death?*

A 1 The *ſoule* of every true Beleever is immediately after death, by the power of God and Miniſtery of the holy Angels, conveyed into the eſtate of happineſſe, *Luke* 16.26. *Luke* 23.42.

2 The *bodies* return to their dust, as to a place of reſt from all evils, *Iſa.* 57.2. *Rev.* 14.13.

3 The bodies of all men ſhall be raiſed againe at the laſt day, and their ſoules ſhall enter into them again, and then body and ſoul of all true Beleevers ſhall be joyntly, fully and everlaſtingly glorified, and the ſoul and body of the wicked, joyntly and endleſſy tormented, *Job* 19. 25, 26. *Dan.* 12. 19. 1 *Cor.* 15. 16. *Rev.* 20. 12, 13. *Joh.* 6. 22.

4 There shall be at the last day a generall, strict and righteous *Judgement*, wherein Christ shall be the Judge; the secrets of mens natures and works shall be opened, and all men judged according to their works, 2 *Pet.*3.10. *Dan.*7.9,10. *Rom.*14.10.

Q. *Wherein doth the state of Gods people in glory differ from their estate in sanctity here on earth?*

A In this life Gods people have *need* of the externall Ministery of the Word, and internall Ministration of the Spirit, which in the next life they shall not need, 1 *Cor.* 13.8,9,10.

2 In this life good and bad are *mixed*, in the next life Gods children shall have absolute freedome from all sinfull people, *Mat.*13.30. *Mat.*25.33,34.

3 In this life Gods children are *troubled* with inward corruptions, many failings, and temptations, and persecutions, but in the next life they shall have a plenary discharge from all evils, 1 *John* 1.8. *Eph.*5.26,27.

4 Here Gods people see and know God *obscurely*, by means, there they shall see him face to face, know him fully, and have the immediate fruition of his presence, 1 *Cor.* 13.12.

Q. *Shew*

Q. *Shew me briefly wherein standeth the excellency of the glorious estate of Gods faithfull people?*

A. In a full freedome from all evill, and in a perfect fruition of all good, *Psal.16. 11. Rev.21.4,5.*

Q. *What are the evils from wch they are freed?*

A. From all bodily *labours*, diseases and afflictions, from all natural *infirmities*, from all *sin*, and inclination to sin, from all bodily and spirituall *adversaries*, from all shame and *sorrow* for their own, or the sins of others, from the *displeasure* of God, and from the trouble of an evill conscience, *Rev.14.13. Heb.4.9,10. 2 Thes.1.7. Rev.21. 4. Eph.5.26. Rev.20. Rev.22.3.*

Q. *Wherein standeth that good whereof they shall have the full fruition?*

A. 1 Their *knowledge* of God, *inclination* to good, *love* to God and his people, shall be in every degree *compleat*, the whole man shall be perfectly conformable to the will of God, and Gods Image, both in soul and body, shall be perfectly restored, *1 Cor.13. 8,10,11. Rom.13.19. Rev.3.4,5. 1 John 3.2.*

2 They shall have the full and blessed *vision* of God forever, and everlasting *communion* with Christ Jesus, the glorious Angels, and all Saints in the highest heavens; *Rev.22.3,4,5.*

Q. *What*

Q. *What inducements are there to move us to labour for this glorious estate?*

A 1 The *vanity* and emptinesse of the *Creature*, it cannot *content* us, make us happy, *comfort us* in heavinesse, *deliver* us out of dangers, nor *perpetuate* our earthly estate and condition; no, not when we have it in the greatest abundance, *Eccles.* 9. 2, 11. *Eccles.* 5. 10, 11. *Job* 20. 22.

2 The sweet and comfortable *fulnesse* which for the present we shall find in God even when we are in the lowest estate, *Psal.* 36. 8. *Gen.* 17. 1. *Gen.* 15. 1, 2. *John* 1. 16. *Psa.* 62. 9, 10, 11, 12. *Psal.* 4. 6.

3 The *great* things which Christ hath done to make us partakers of that glorious estate, *Tit.* 2. 12, 13, 14. *Ephes.* 4. 11, 12, 13, 14.

4 The insufferable and endlesse *shame*, sorrow and torments we shall draw upon our selves, if we prepare not for that estate, *Mat.* 25. 41. *Isa.* 30. 33.

5 The glorious condition and everlasting *continuance* of this blessed estate in heaven, *Rev.* 21. 2. 23. 1. *Pet.* 1. 4.

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Laus Deo in æternum.

FINIS.